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Lancaster, David ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1691-4320 (2019) Grotesques - for woodwind quartet. [Composition]

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David Lancaster

Grotesques

(2018)

For Woodwind Quartet:
flute, oboe, clarinet and bassoon

Score in C

University of York Music Press

Grotesques – for woodwind quartet

David Lancaster

Programme note:

From my office and from my home I can see York Minster and hear its bells; it dominates the skyline and is usually the first thing I see when I return to York from a trip.

The 'grotesques' are carvings on the inside and outside of the building, numbering thousands, representing distorted human faces, demons, fantastical creatures and other horrors intended to scare away evil spirits. Each of the canopies in the magnificent Chapter House is adorned with such grotesques: some of them intriguing, others are very rude! Are they modelled on the faces of the craftsmen who built the Minster, or their families, or their masters?

My intention was to compose a series of musical grotesques: short pieces with distinctive musical characteristics, sometimes employing musical distortions (mostly of my own material, but also some pre-existing pieces associated with the Minster, or change ringing patterns used by bell ringers) to convey the notion of the grotesque.

There are five musical grotesques here but they are blended together in one continuous span, allowing the musical characters to form relationships and to explore possibilities of combination and juxtaposition.

The five grotesques are:

1) a squirming melody played in the low register of the flute,
2) a quick, spiky and abrasive 'fanfare',
3) a flurry of descending scales which tends to interrupt the continuity,
4) a plaintive melody which is passed between oboe and clarinet, and
5) a sequence of sombre minor chords.

This group of Grotesques was composed in York and Paris during the winter of 2017-18.

Grotesques – for woodwind quartet

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon

Score in C

Notes for performers:

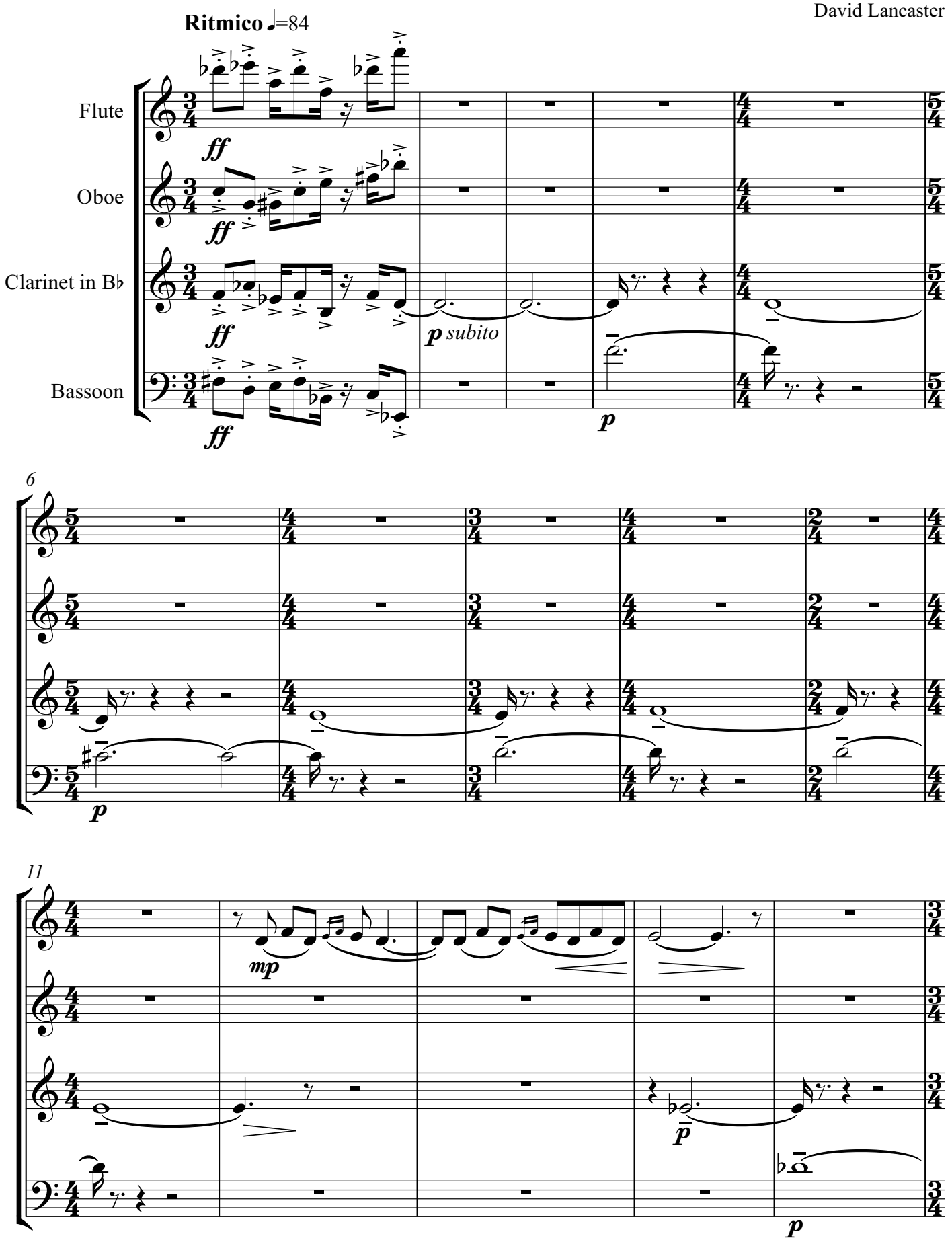
Duration 8 minutes

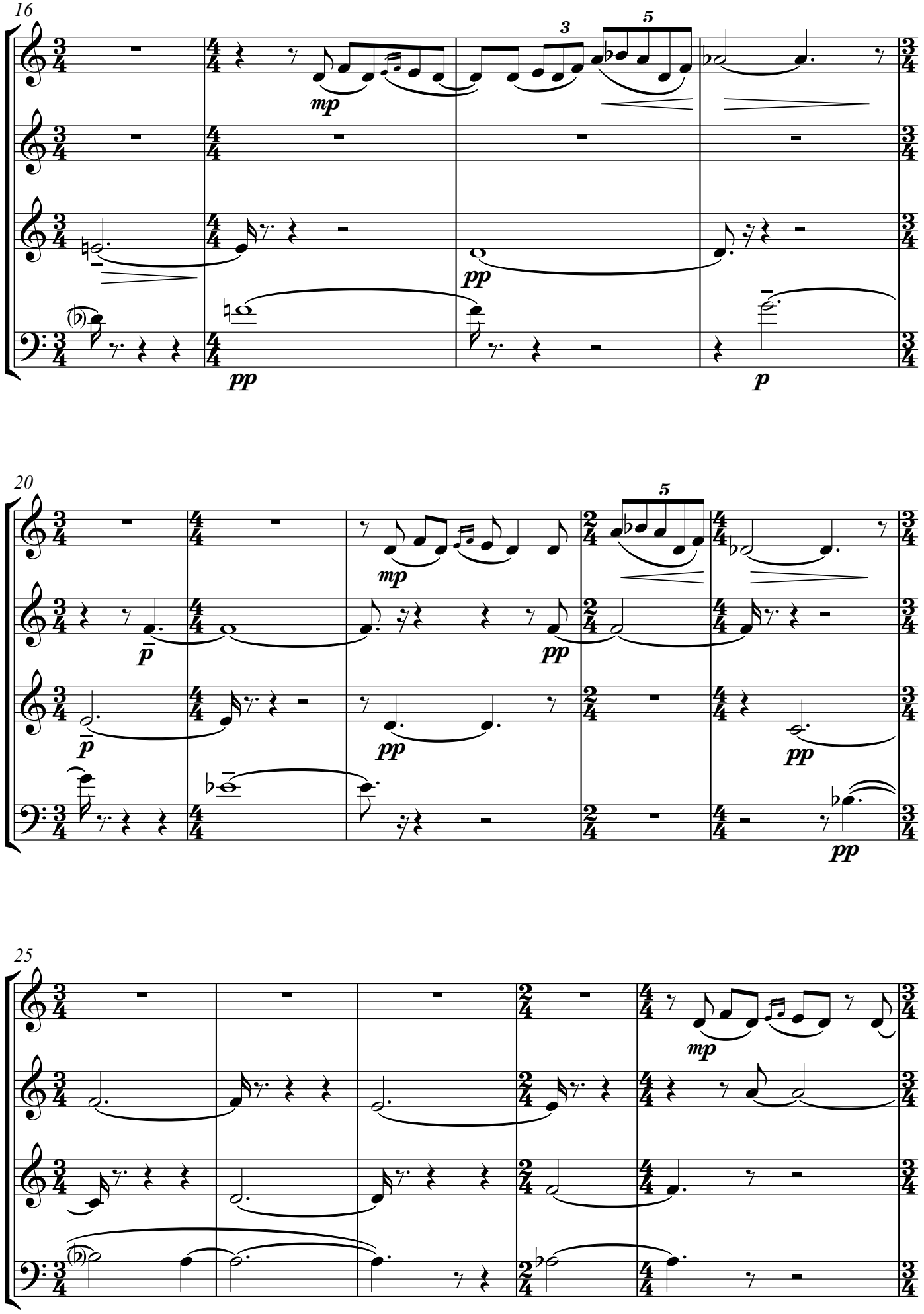
Tempo changes should be strictly observed.

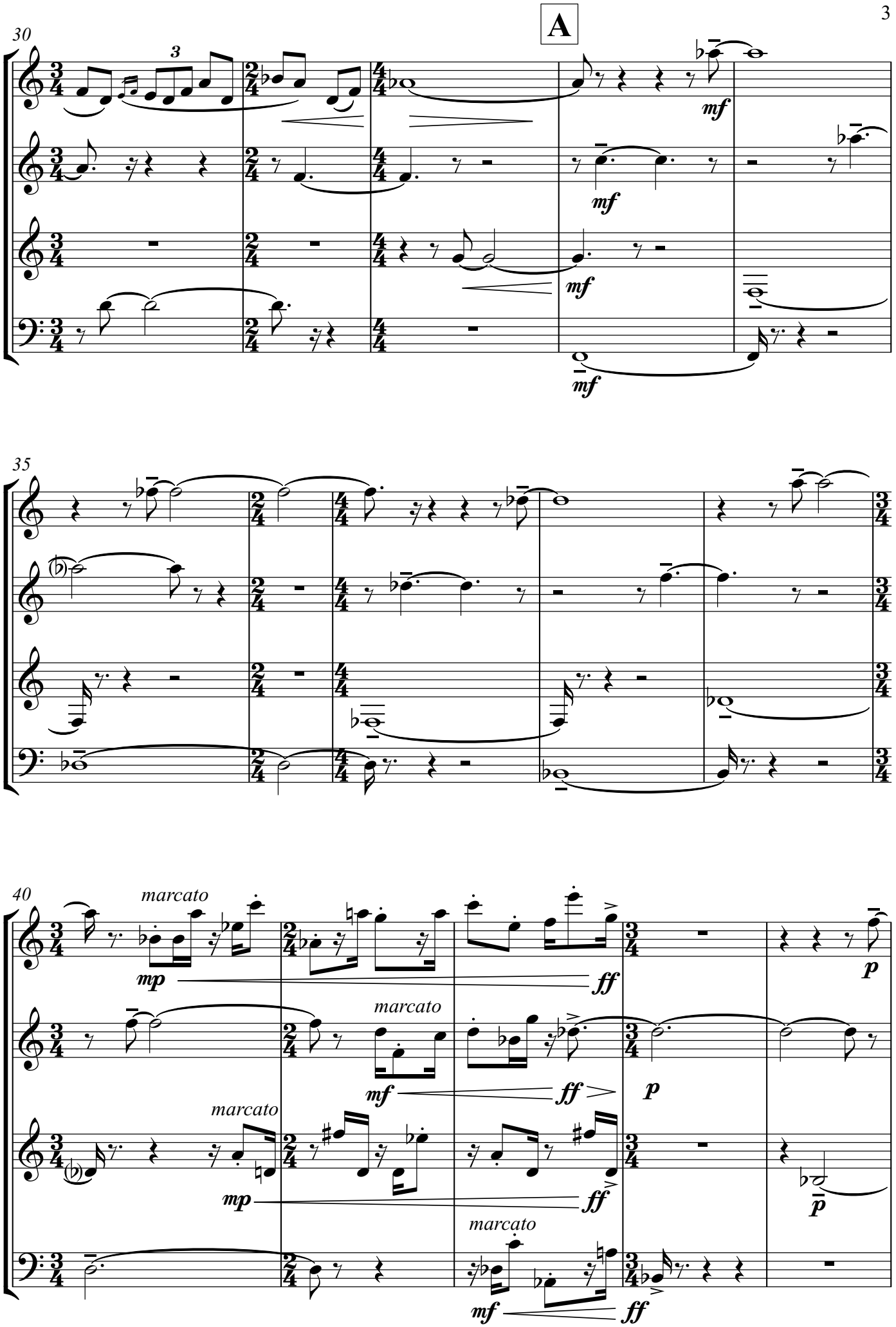
Tenuto signs (–) are generally used to indicate a firm articulation – not quite an accent!

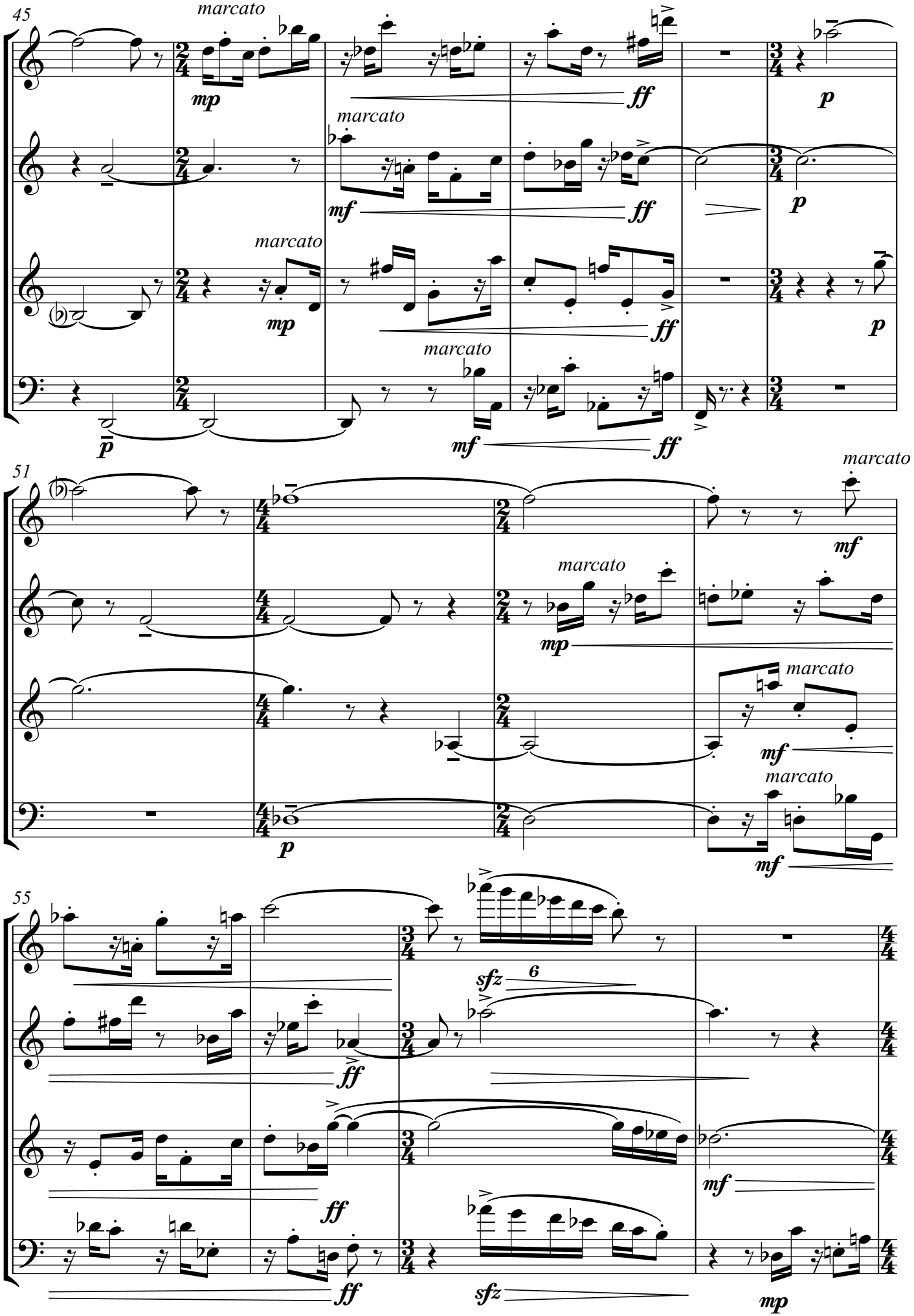
Grotesques

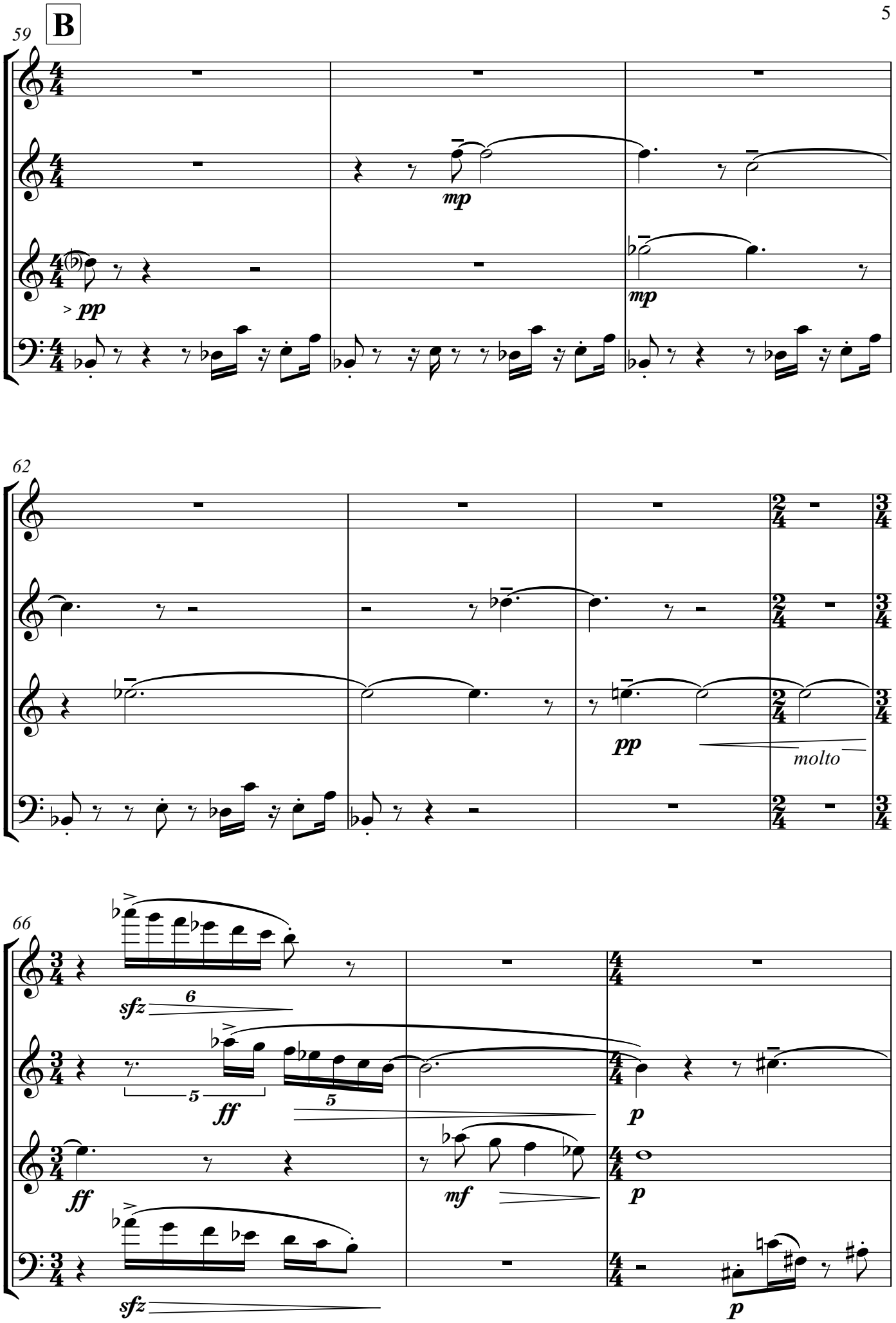
David Lancaster

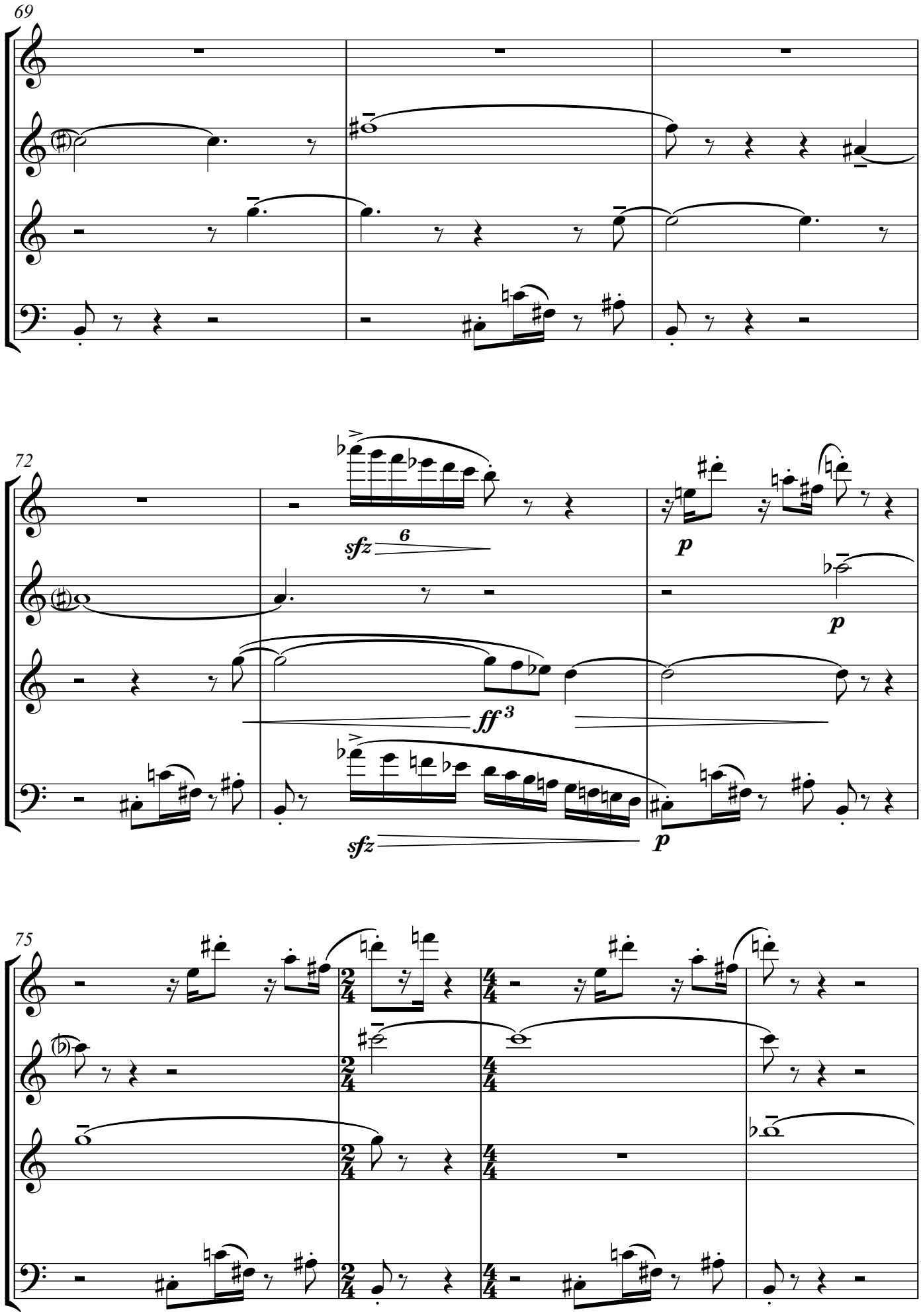



16
3
5
mp
pp
pp
p
20
5
mp
p
pp
pp
pp
pp
25
mp


A
30
35
40
3
mf
marcato
mp
ff
p


45
marcato
mp
ff
p
marcato
mf
ff
p
marcato
mp
ff
p
marcato
mf
ff
51
marcato
mf
marcato
mp
marcato
mf
marcato
mf
p
55
sfz
6
ff
ff
ff
mf
sfz
mp


59
B
mp
> pp
mp
62
pp
molto
66
sfz
6
ff
5
5
p
ff
mf
p
sfz
p


69
72
sfz
6
p
p
ff 3
sfz
p
75

C

79

sfz 6 pp molto ff p

ff f p

sfz 3 p

84

sfz 6 mp

f mp

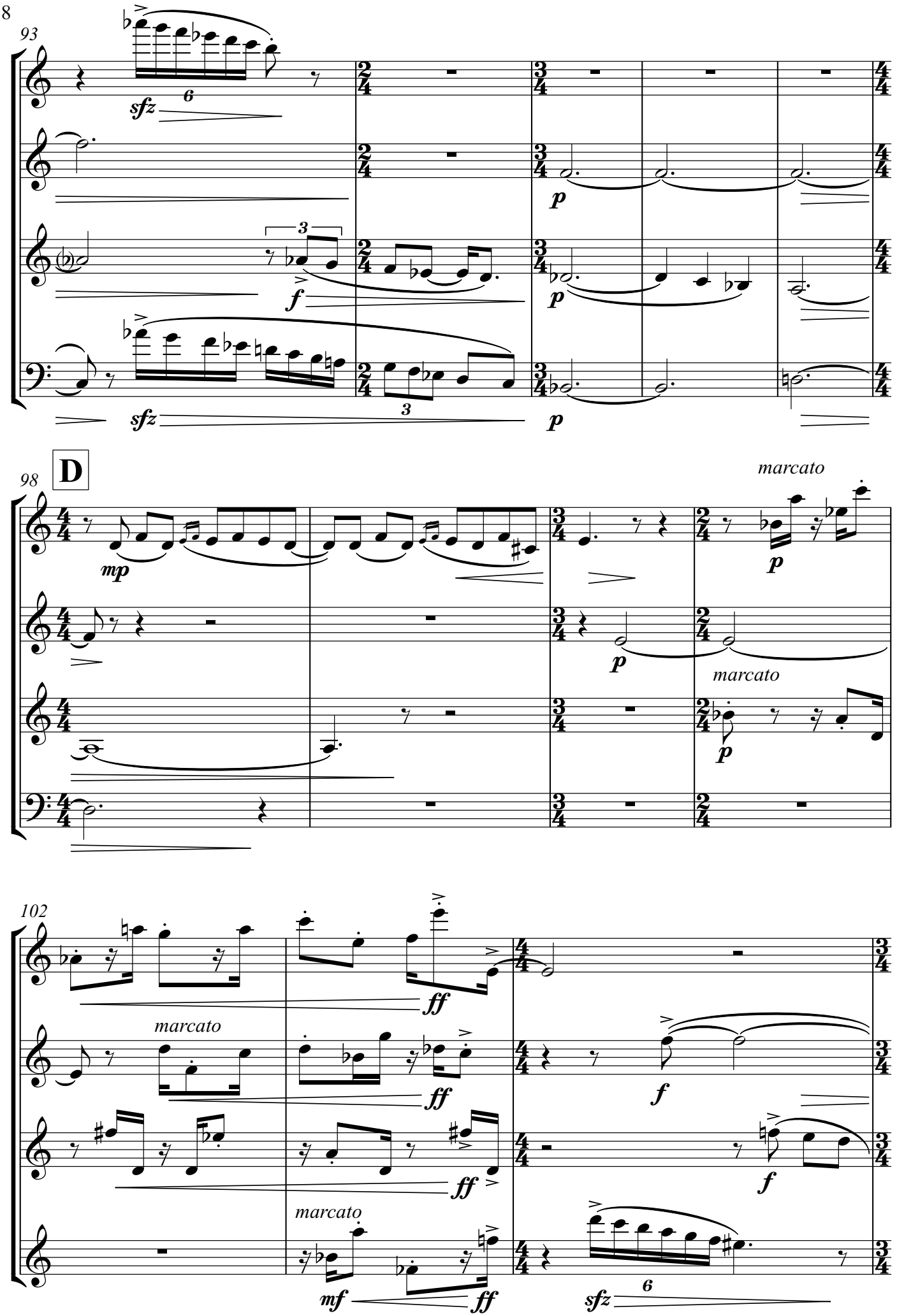
sfz 3 mp 3

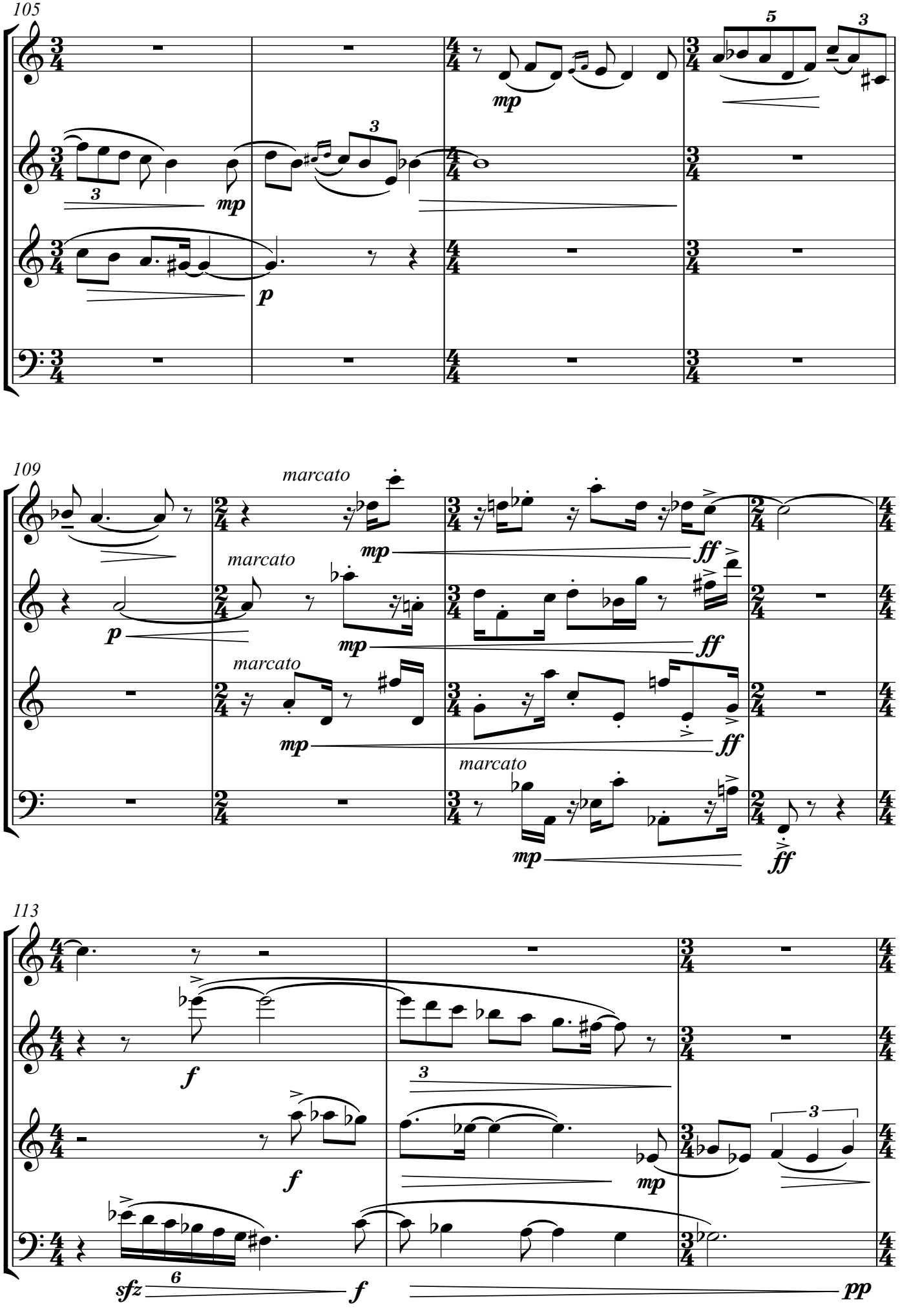
90

sfz 6 f pp

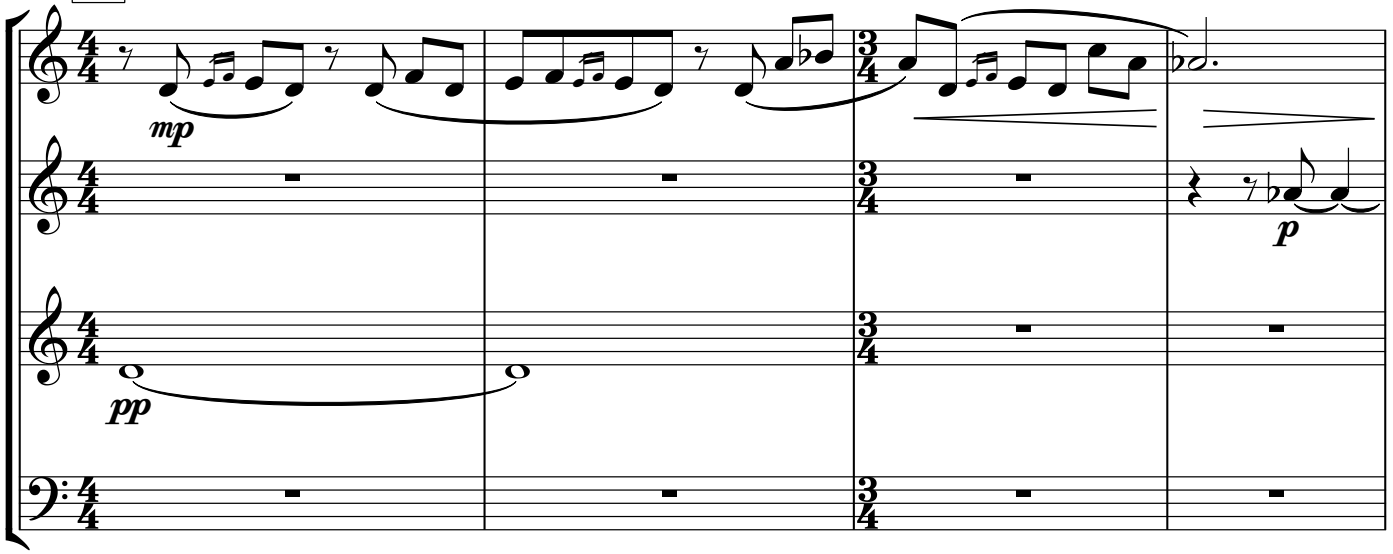
pp

sfz 3 pp


93
sfz
6
p
3
f
p
sfz
3
p
98
D
mp
marcato
p
p
marcato
p
102
ff
marcato
ff
f
ff
f
marcato
mf
ff
sfz
6


105
109
marcato
marcato
marcato
marcato
113

116 **E**



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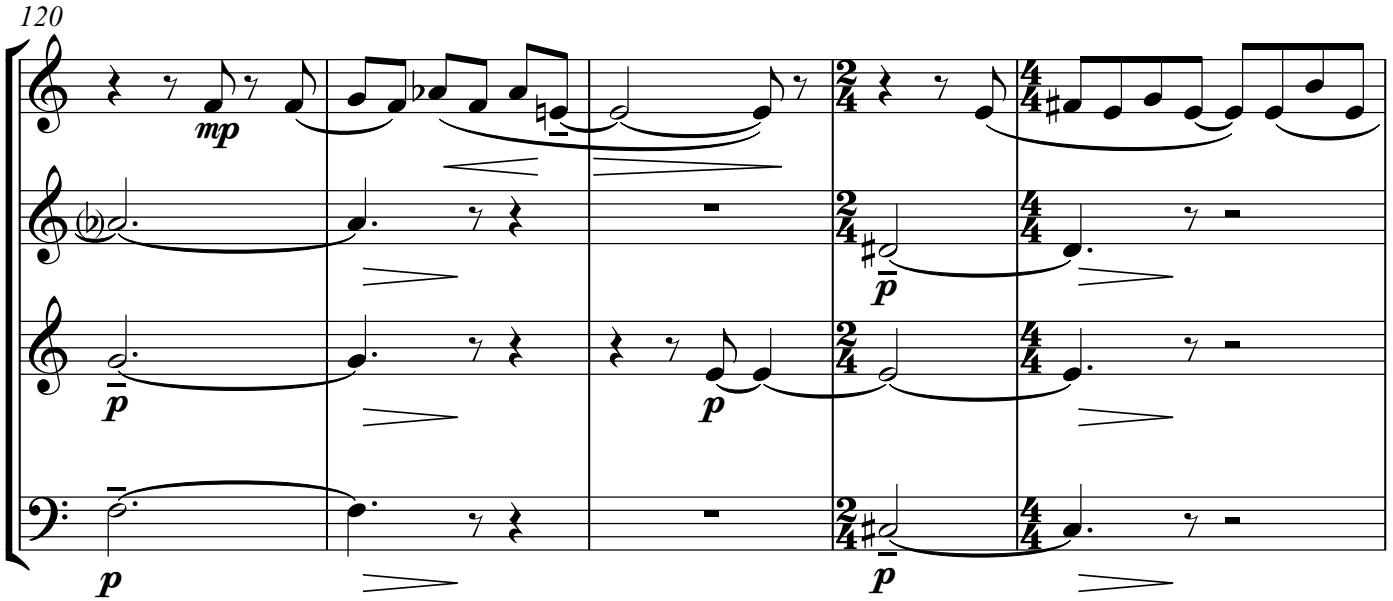

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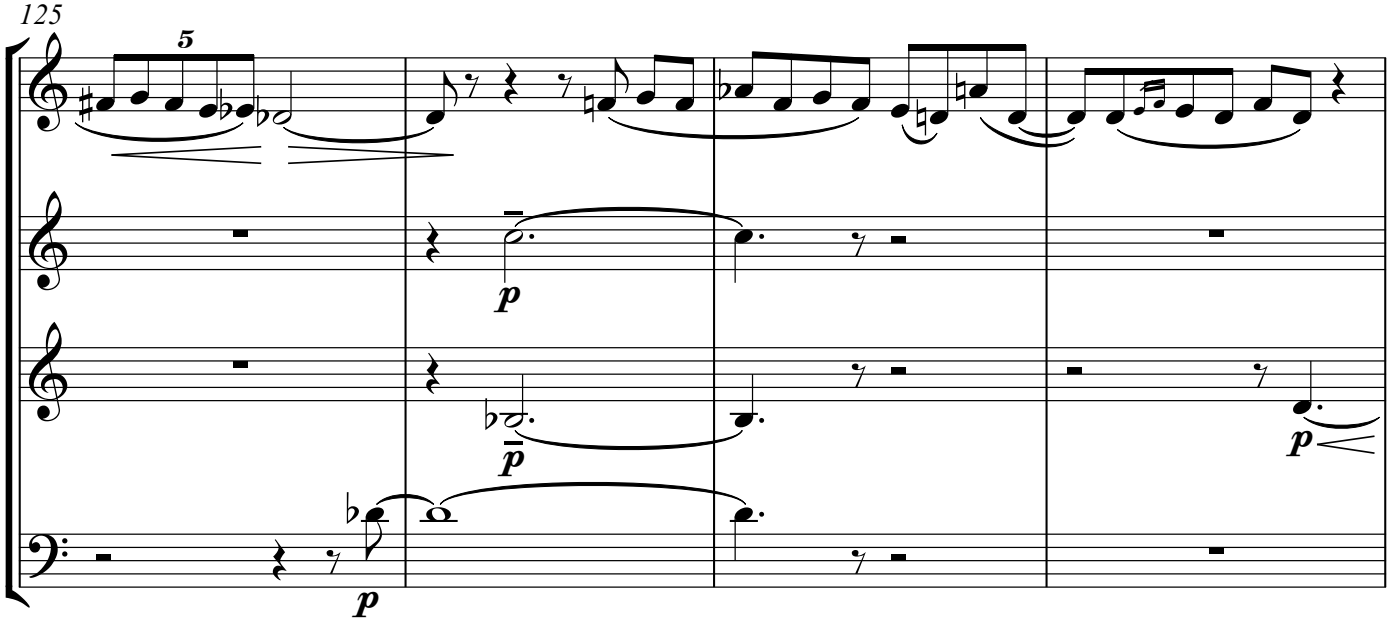
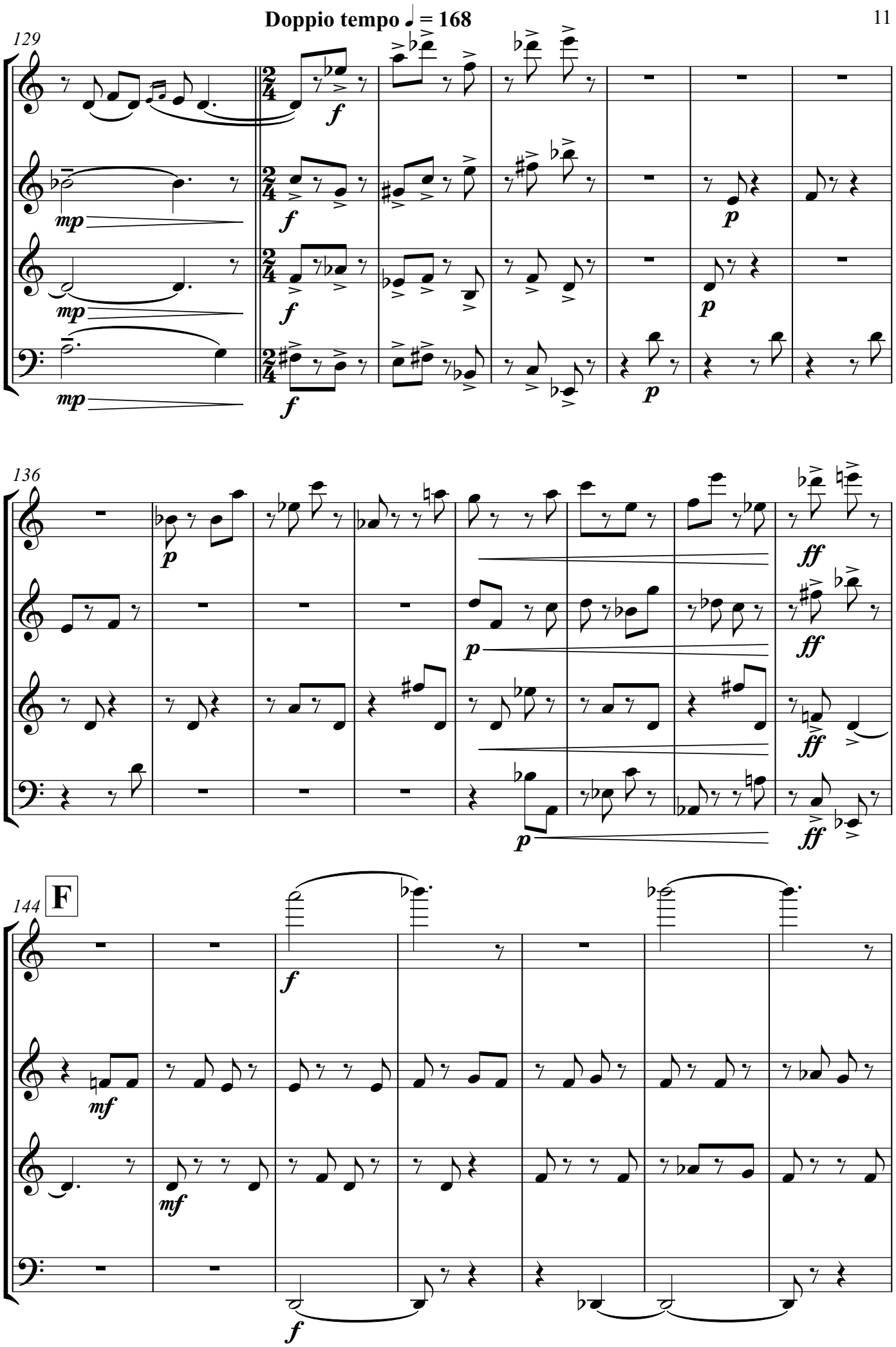
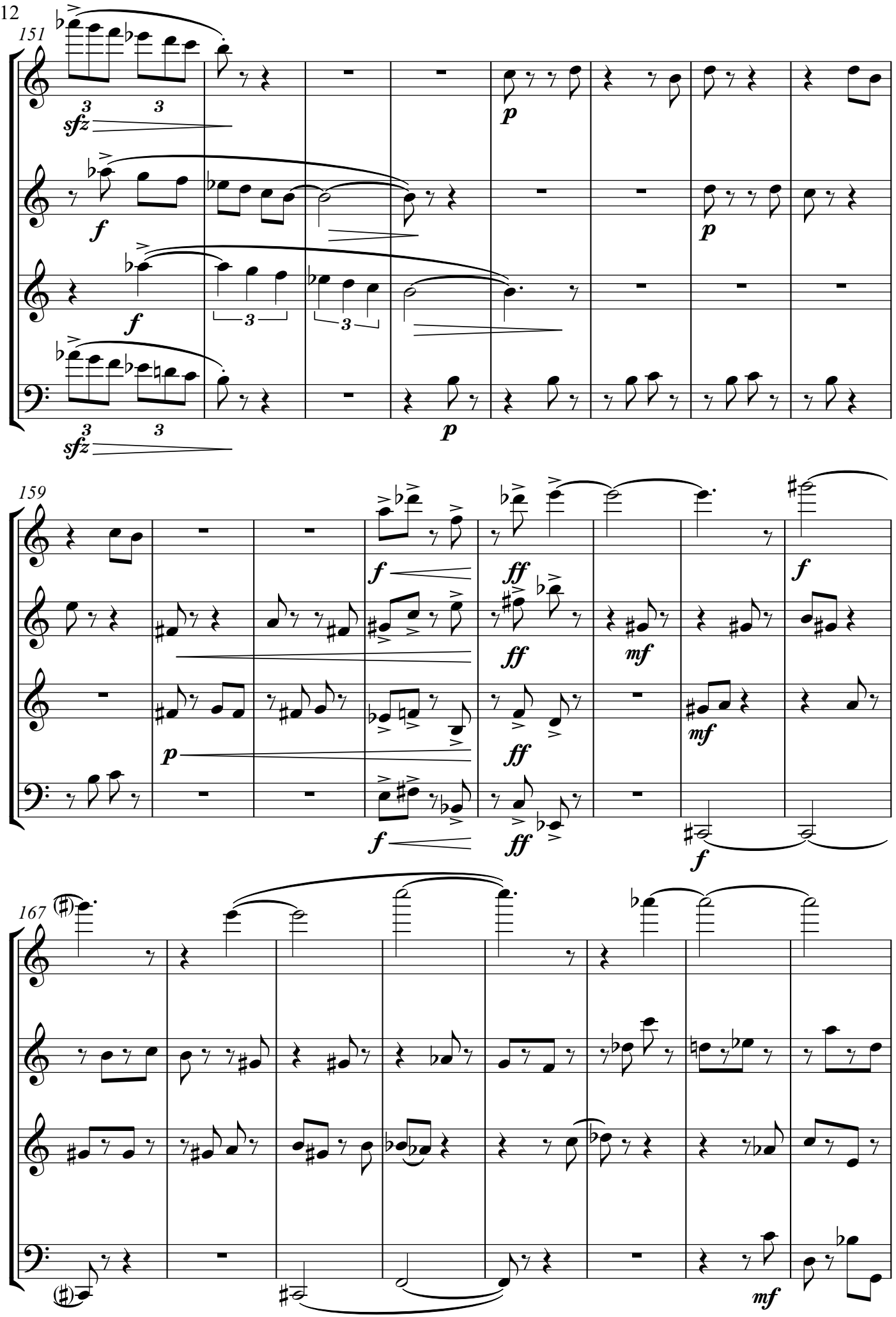
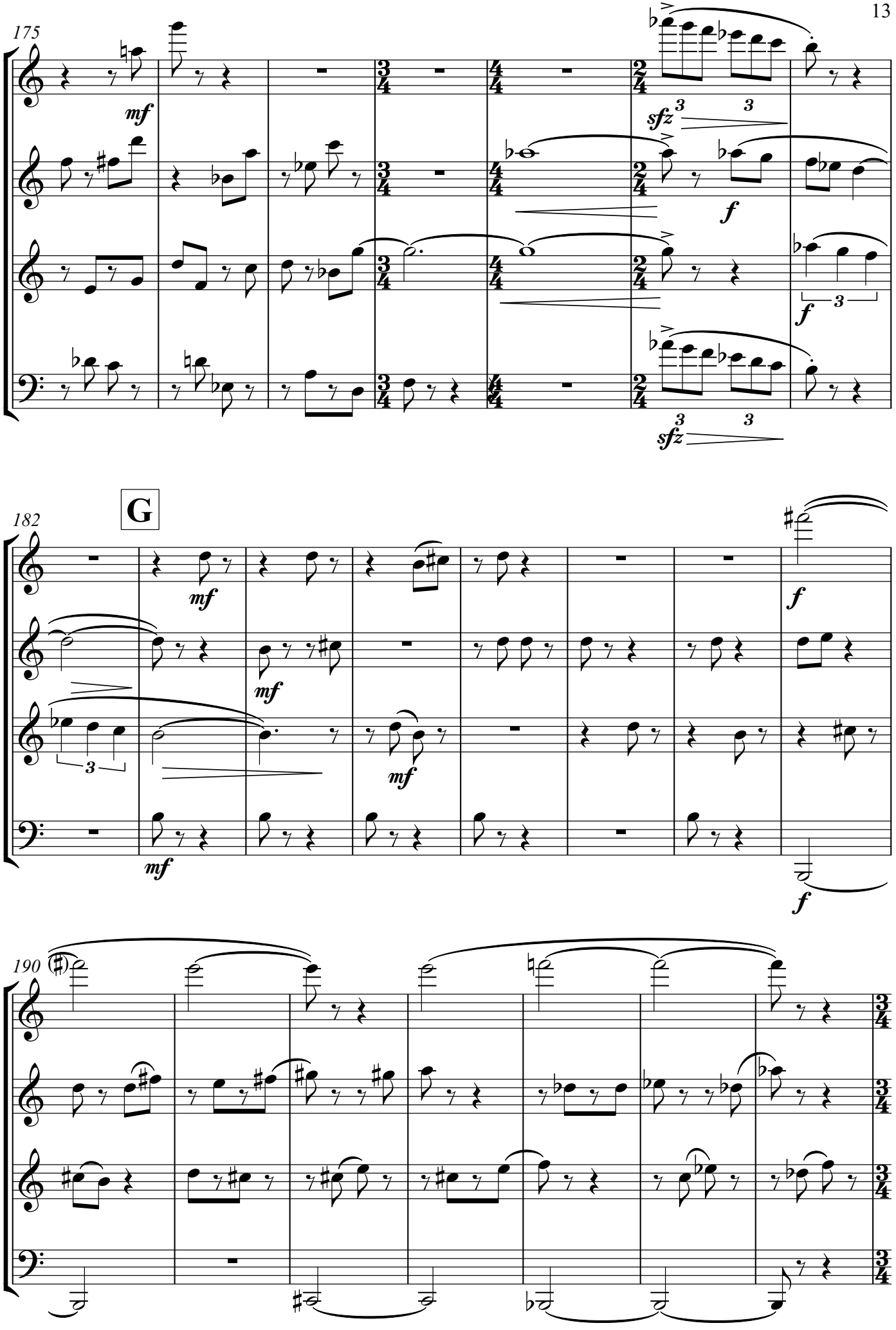
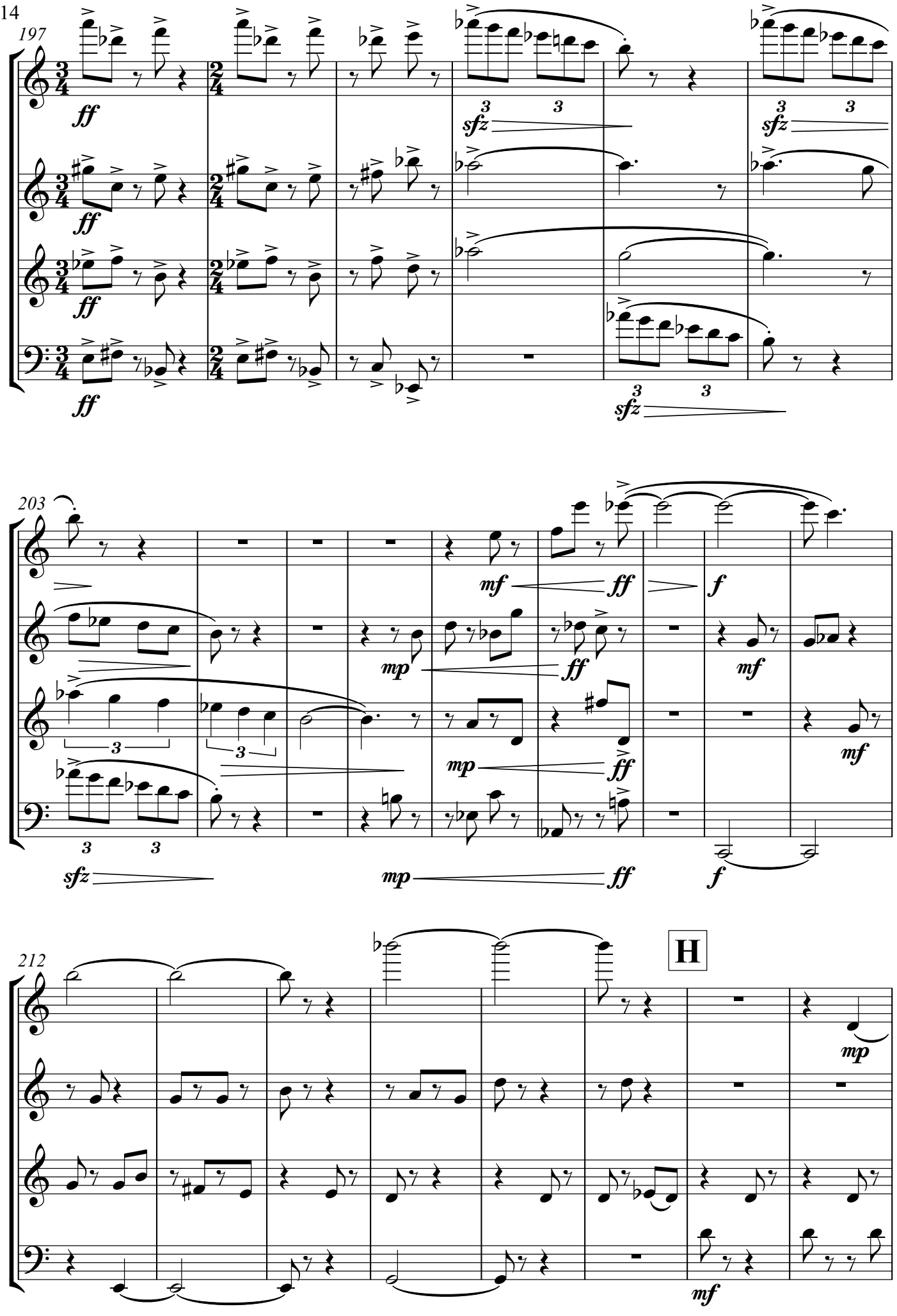
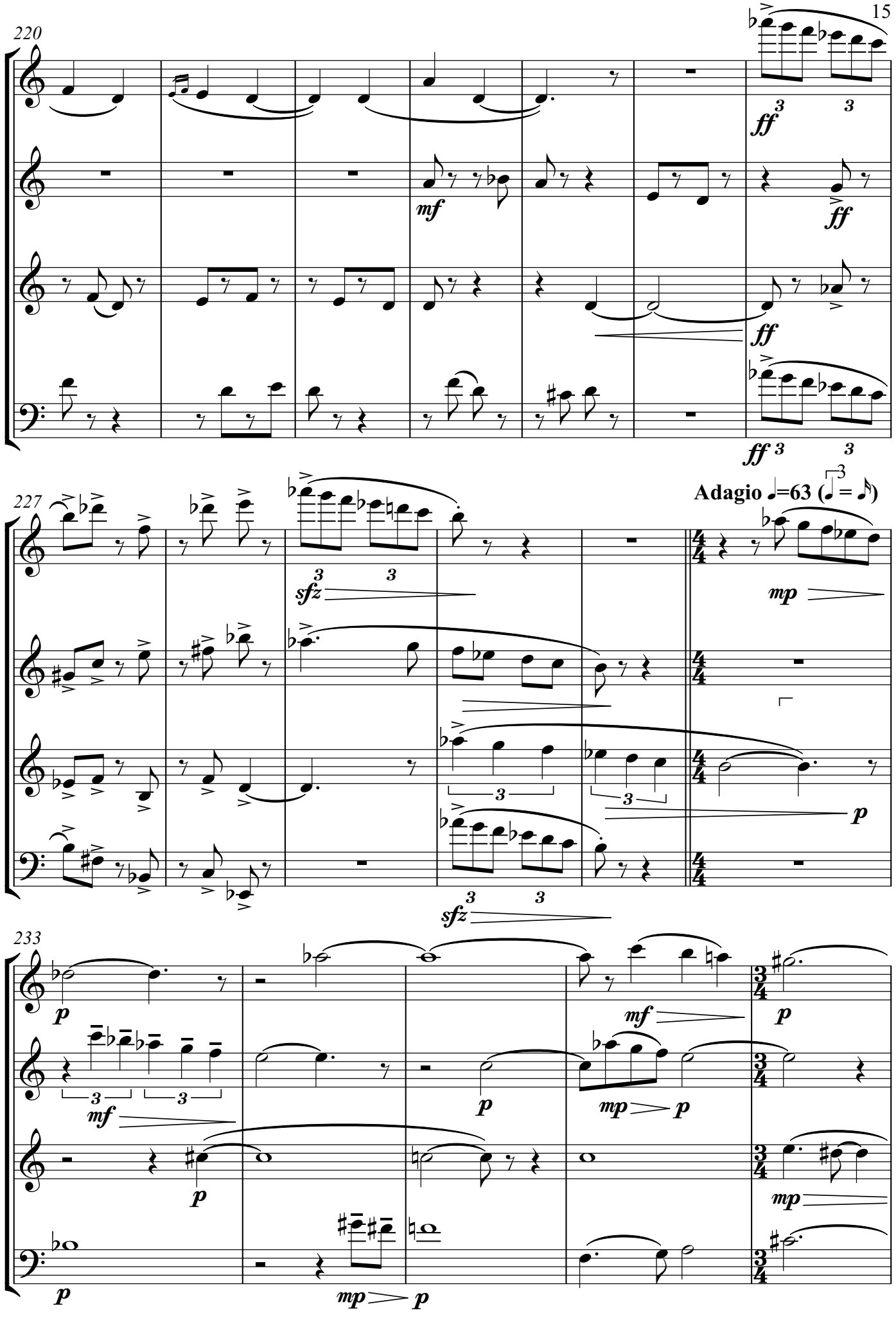


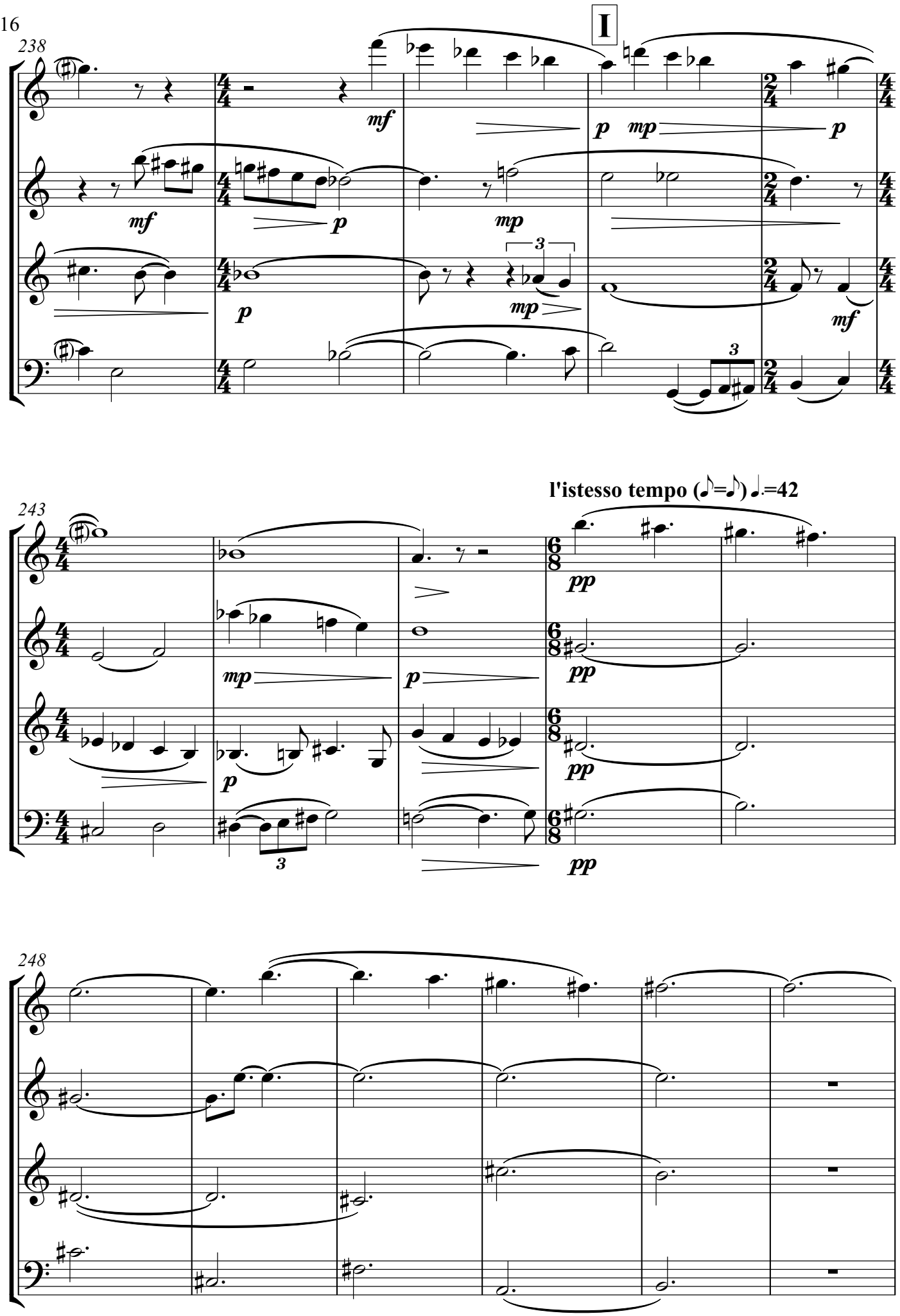

Doppio tempo ♩ = 168
129
136
144
F


151
159
167
sfz
f
p
ff
mf


175
mf
sfz
f
182
G
mf
f
190

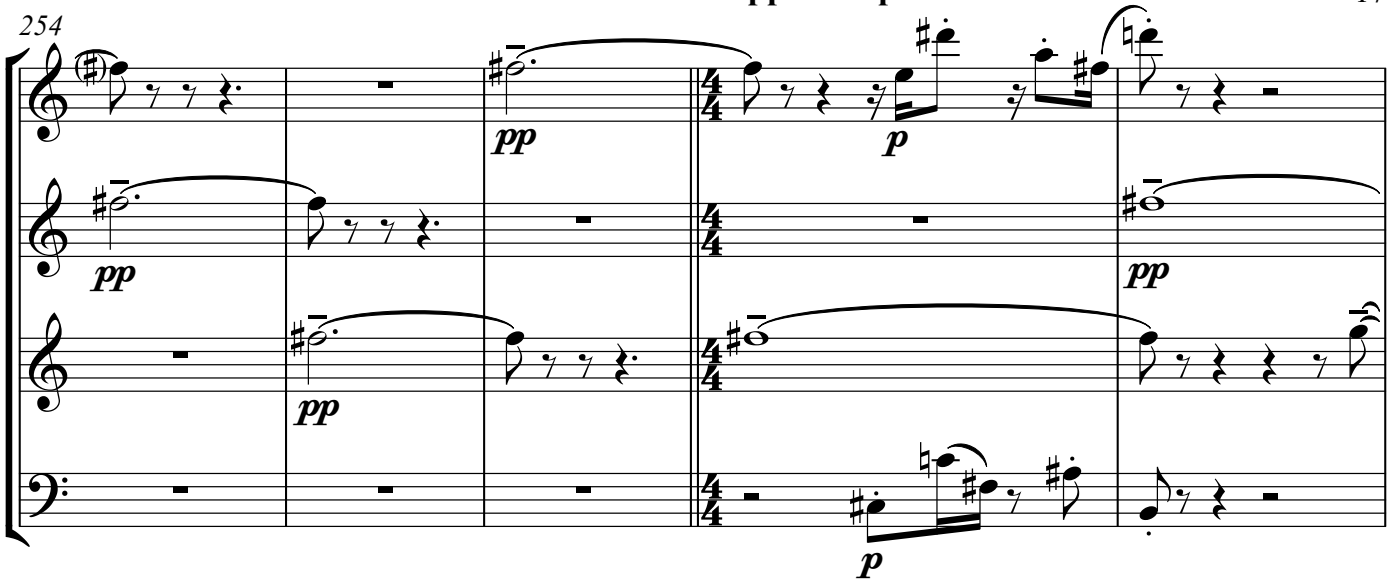

197
ff
sfz
203
mf
ff
f
mp
212
H
mp
mf


220
227
Adagio ♩=63 (♩ = ♪)
233


238
I
mf
p
mp
243
l'istesso tempo (♪=♪) ♩.=42
pp
248

Doppio tempo ♩=84

254



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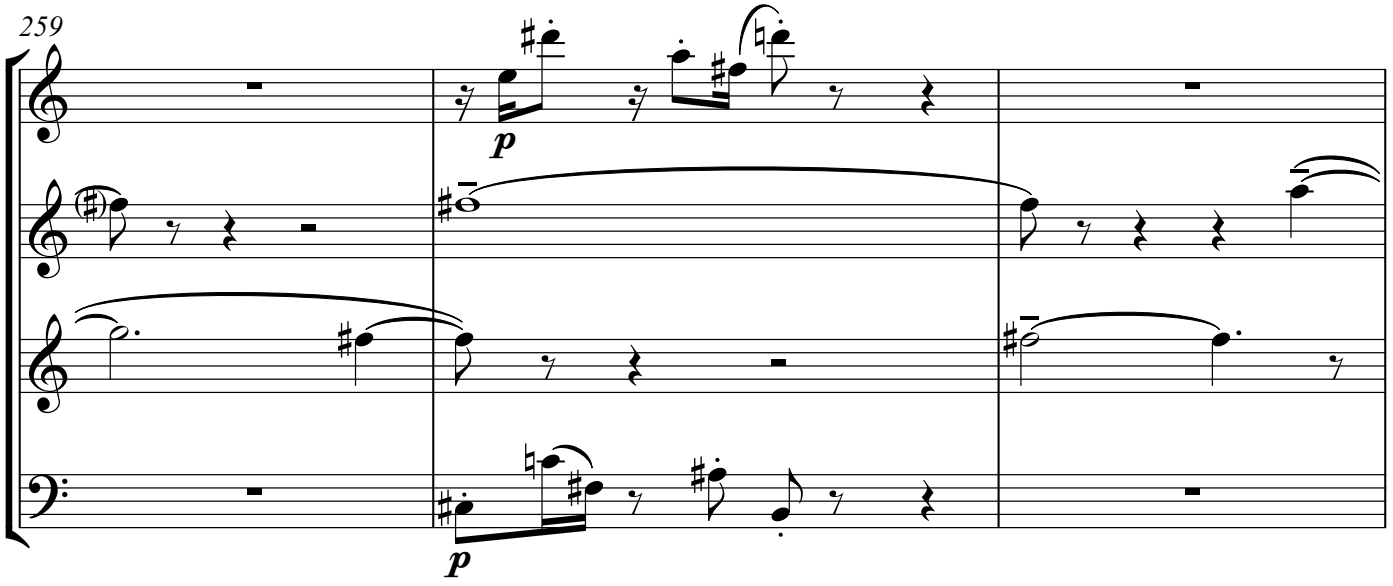

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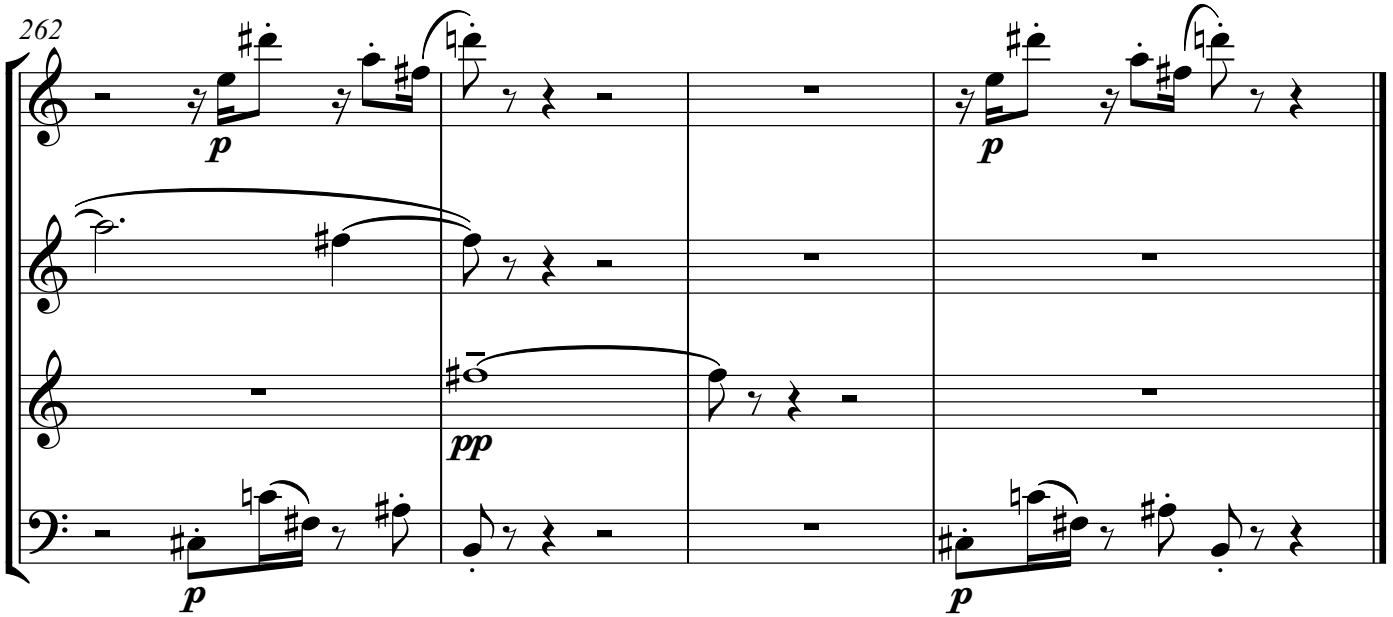
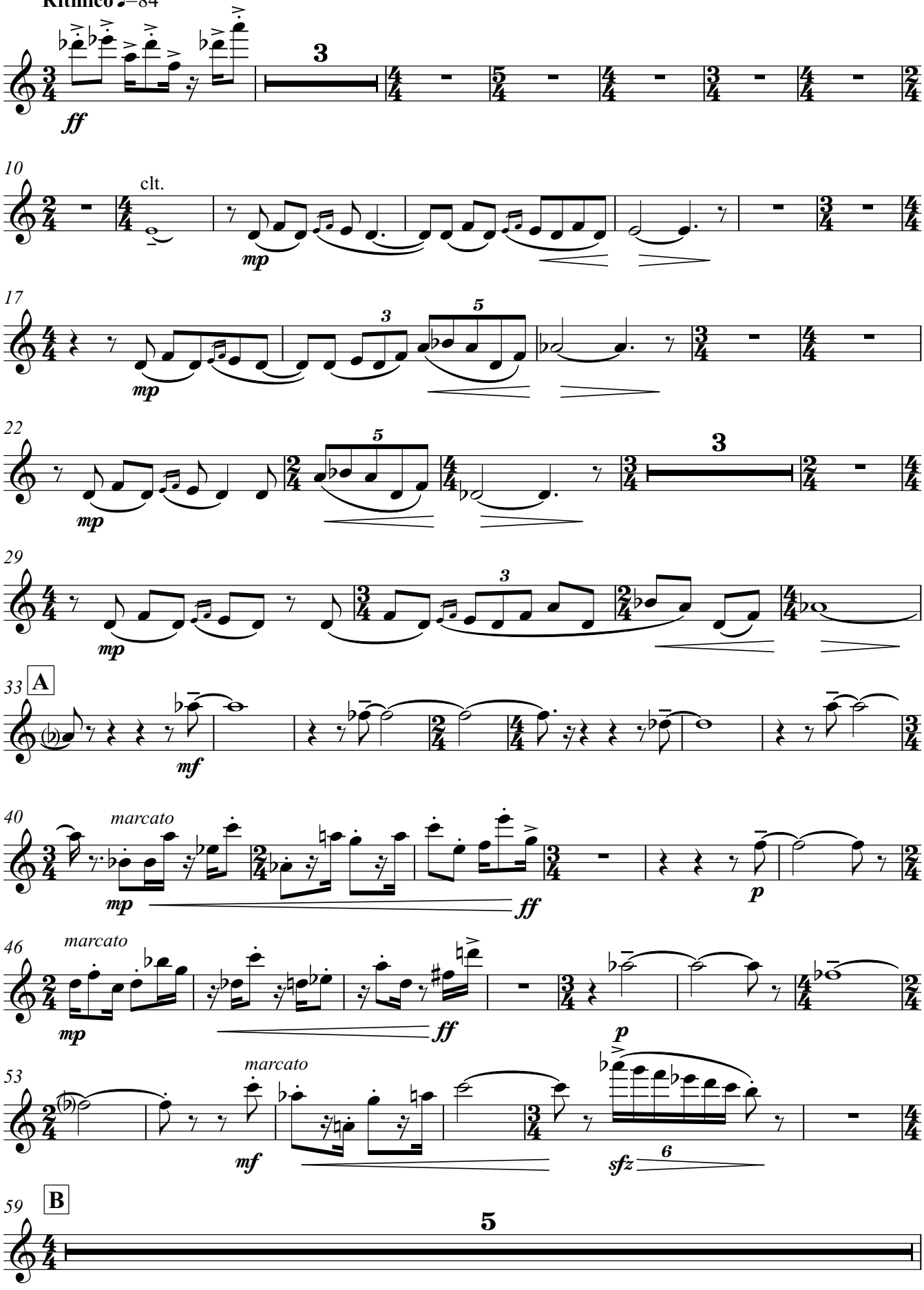
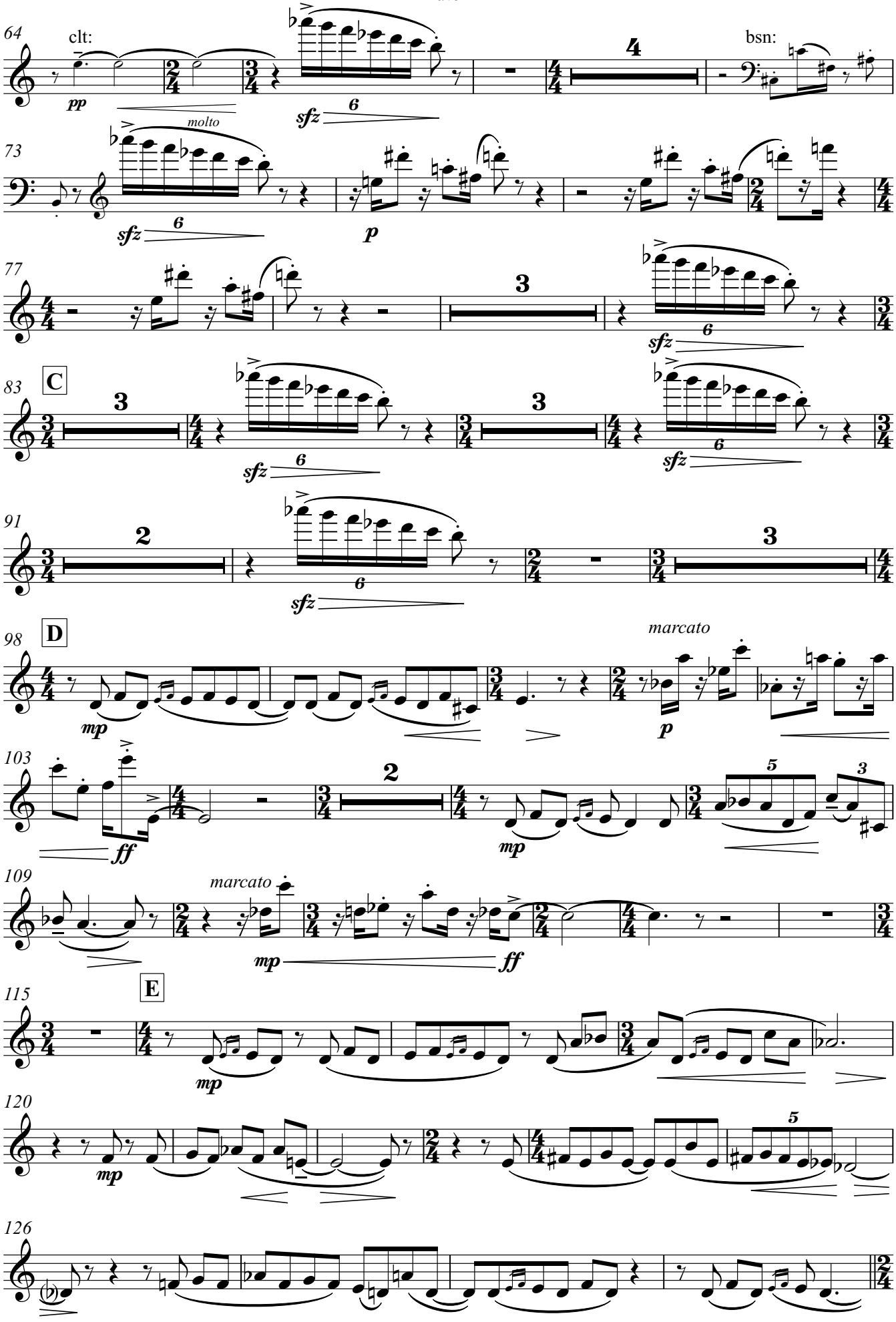


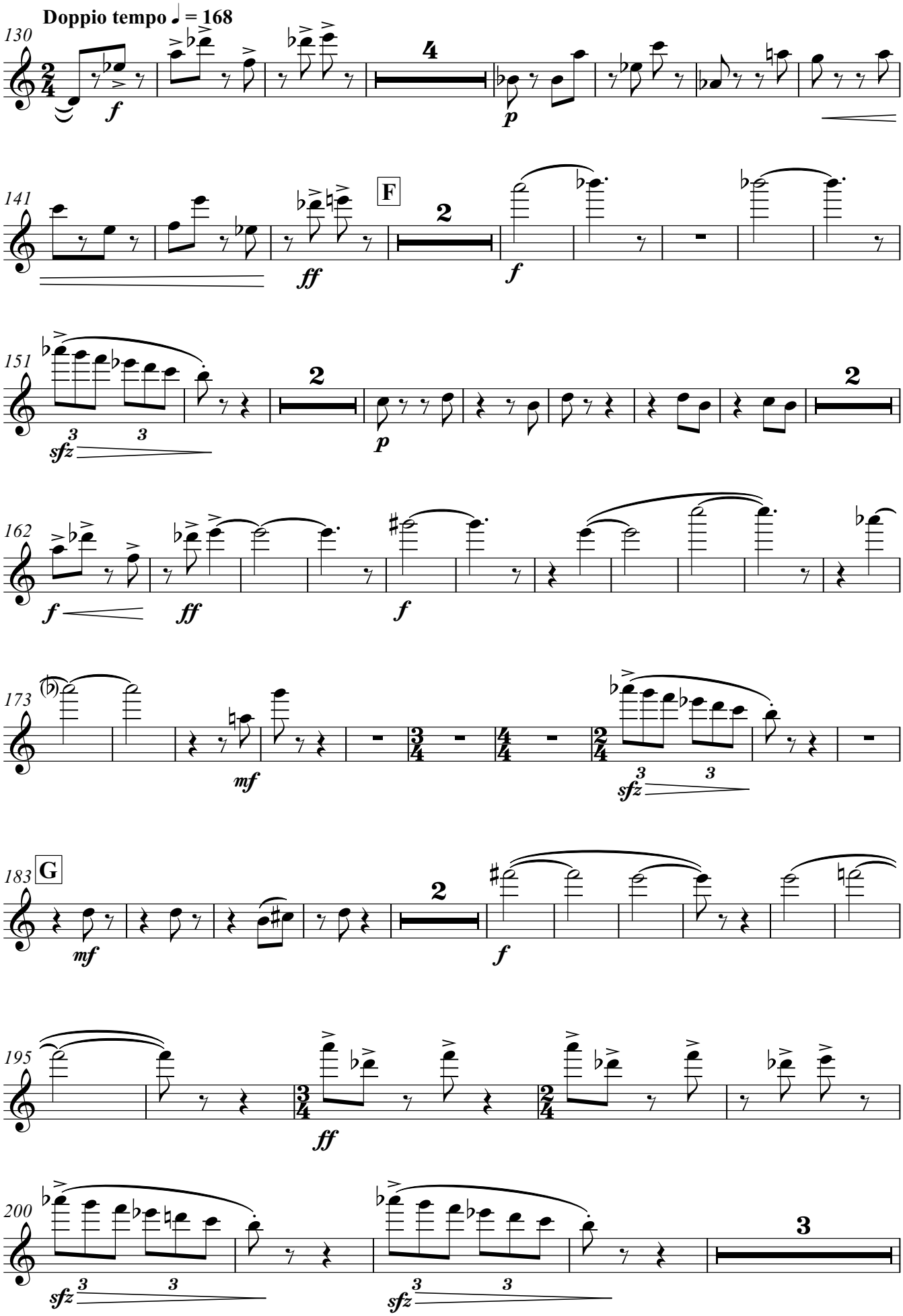
Flute

Grotesques

David Lancaster




64
clt:
bsn:
molto
73
77
83
C
91
98
D
marcato
103
109
marcato
115
E
120
126


Doppio tempo ♩ = 168
130
f
4
p
141
F
ff
2
f
151
sfz
3
3
2
p
2
162
f
ff
f
173
mf
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sfz
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G
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2
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195
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200
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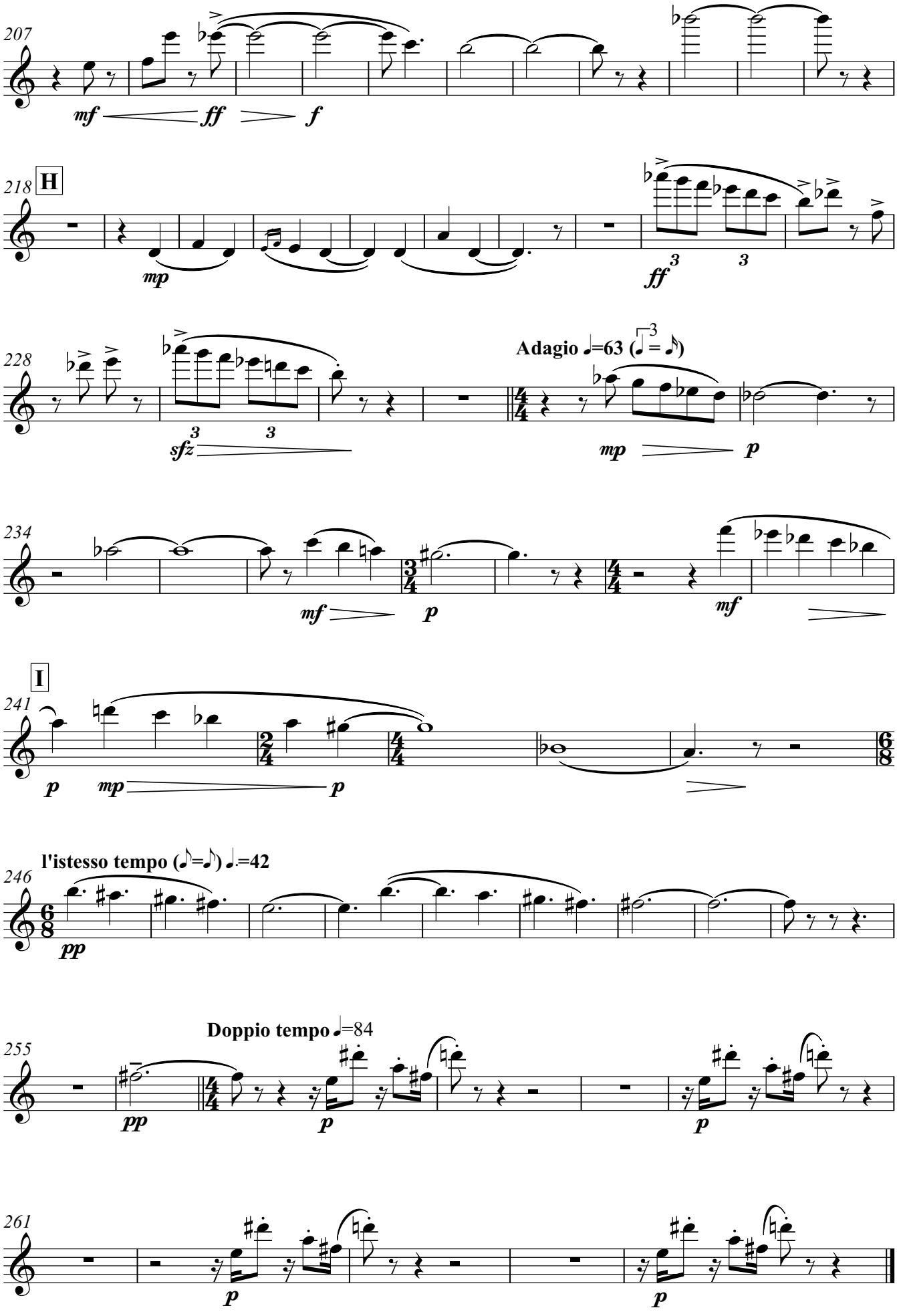
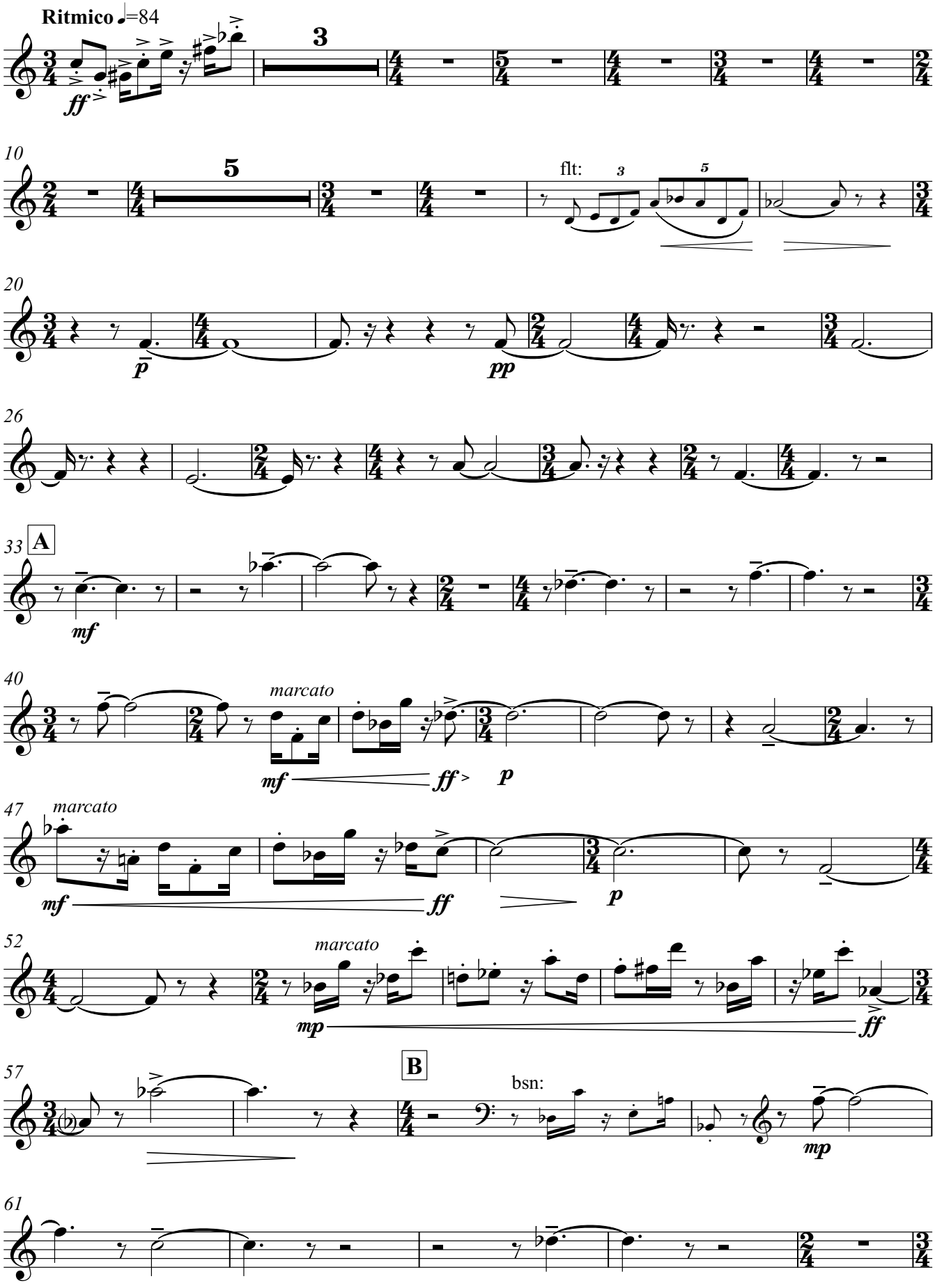
sfz
3
3
3

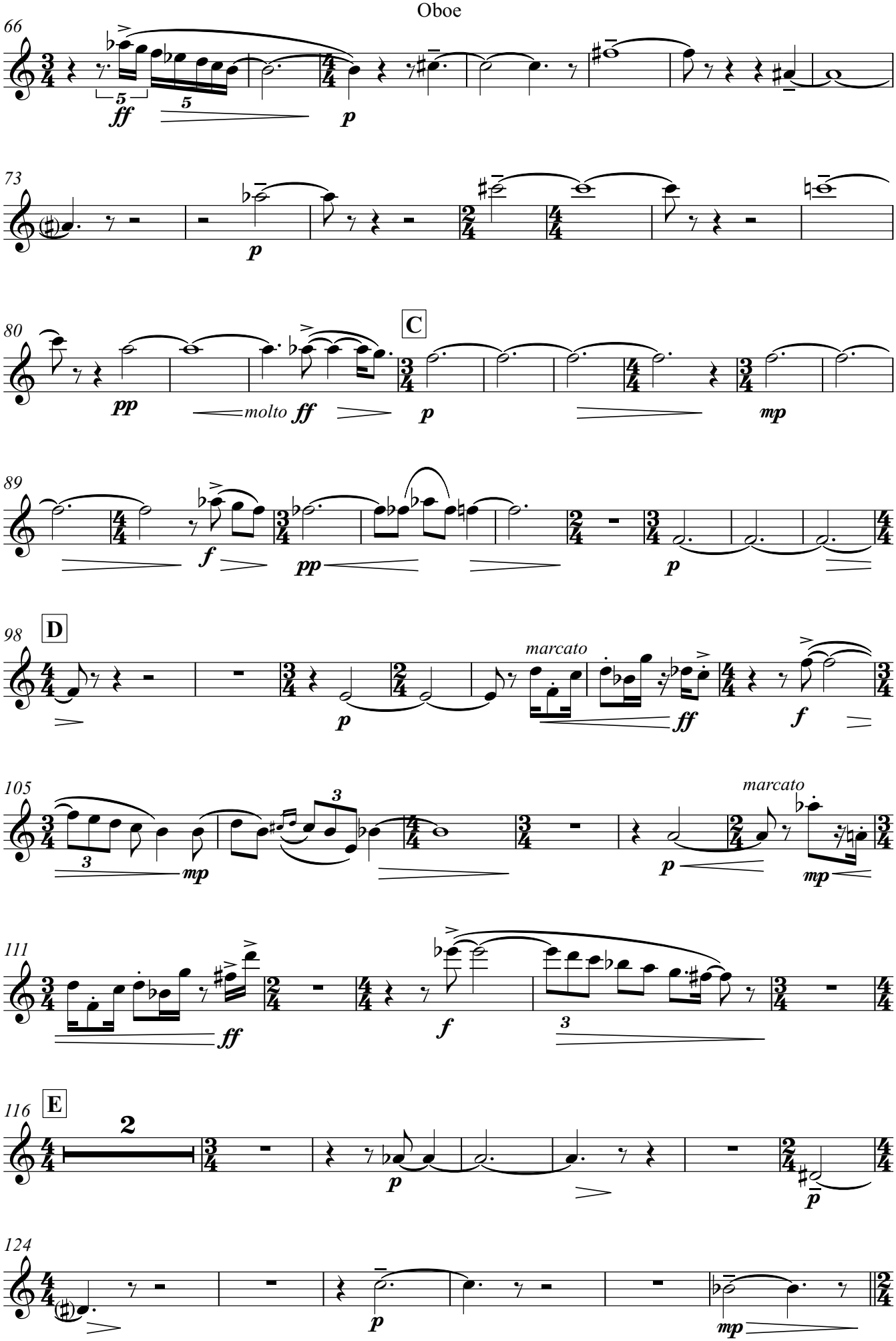

207
mf
ff
f
218
H
mp
ff
228
sfz
Adagio ♩=63 (3 ♩ = ♪)
mp
p
234
mf
p
mf
I
241
p
mp
p
246
l'istesso tempo (♪=♪) ♩.=42
pp
255
Doppio tempo ♩=84
pp
p
p
261
p
p

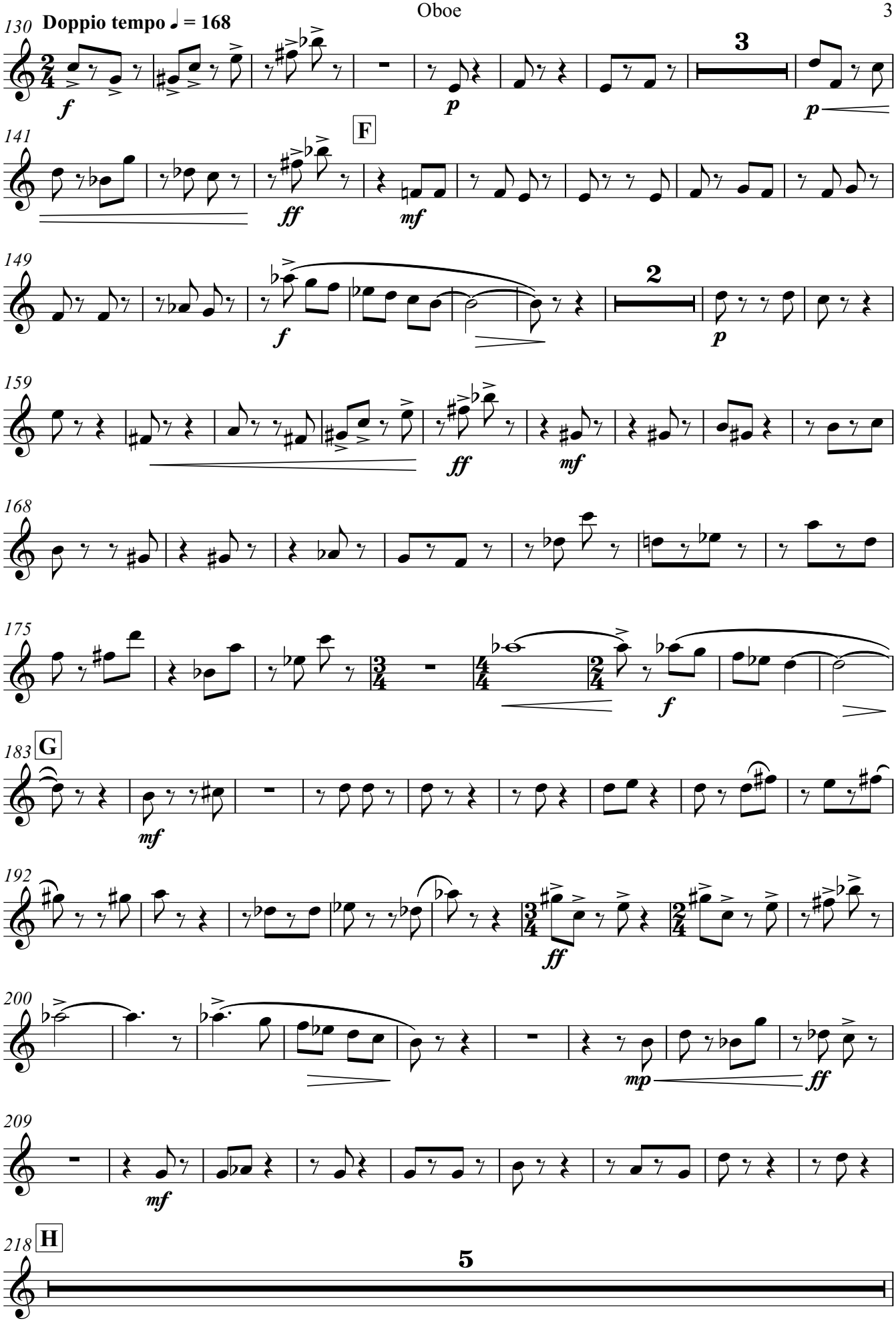
Oboe

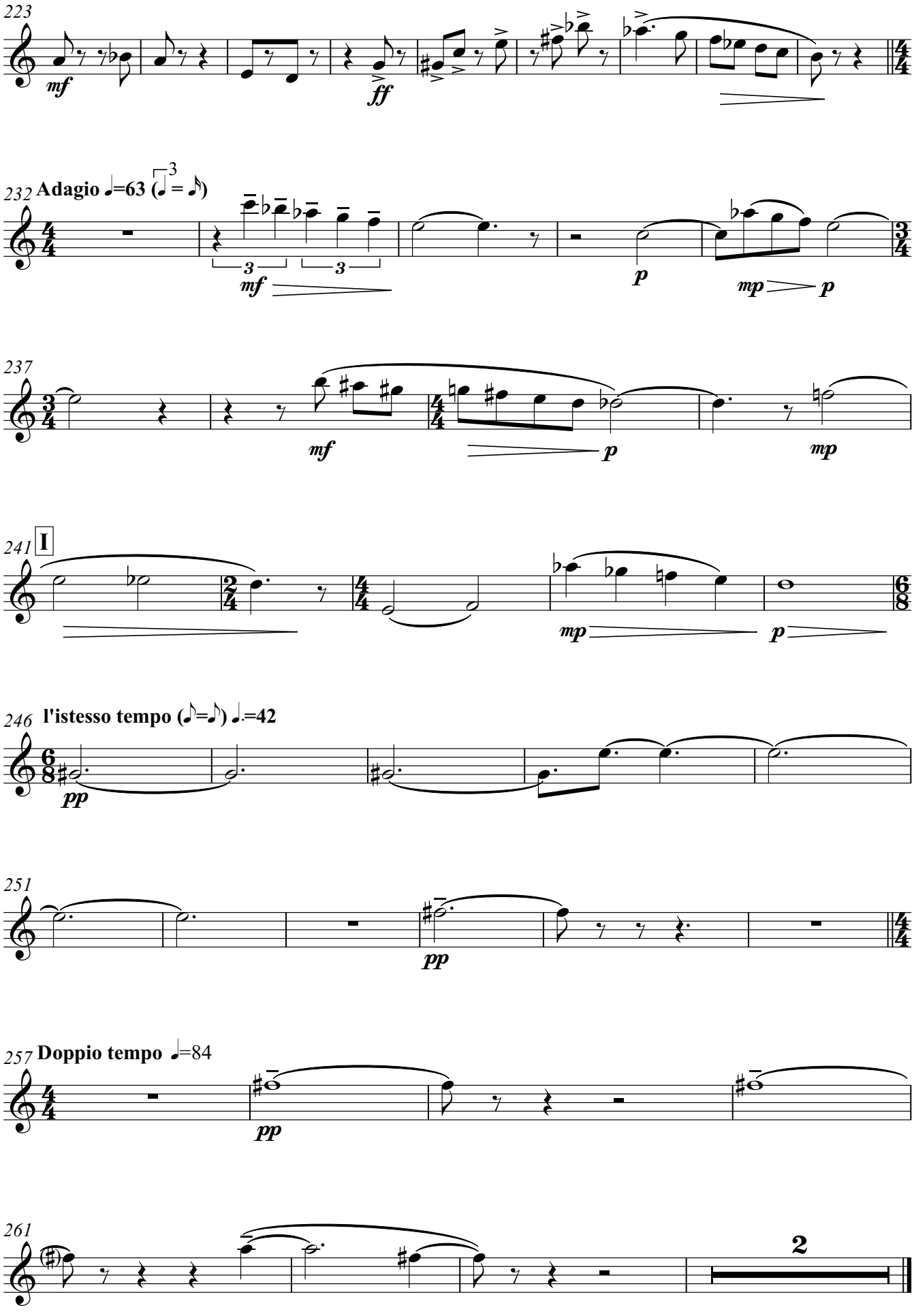
Grotesques

David Lancaster




66
ff
p
73
p
80
C
pp
molto ff
p
mp
89
f
pp
p
98
D
p
marcato
ff
f
105
mp
p
marcato
mp
111
ff
f
116
E
2
p
p
124
p
mp


130
Doppio tempo ♩ = 168
3
141
F
149
2
159
168
175
183
G
192
200
209
218
H
5


223
mf
ff
232 Adagio ♩=63 (3 ♩ = ♪)
mf
p
mp
p
237
mf
p
mp
241 I
mp
p
246 l'istesso tempo (♪=♪) ♩.=42
pp
251
pp
257 Doppio tempo ♩=84
pp
261
2

Clarinet in B♭

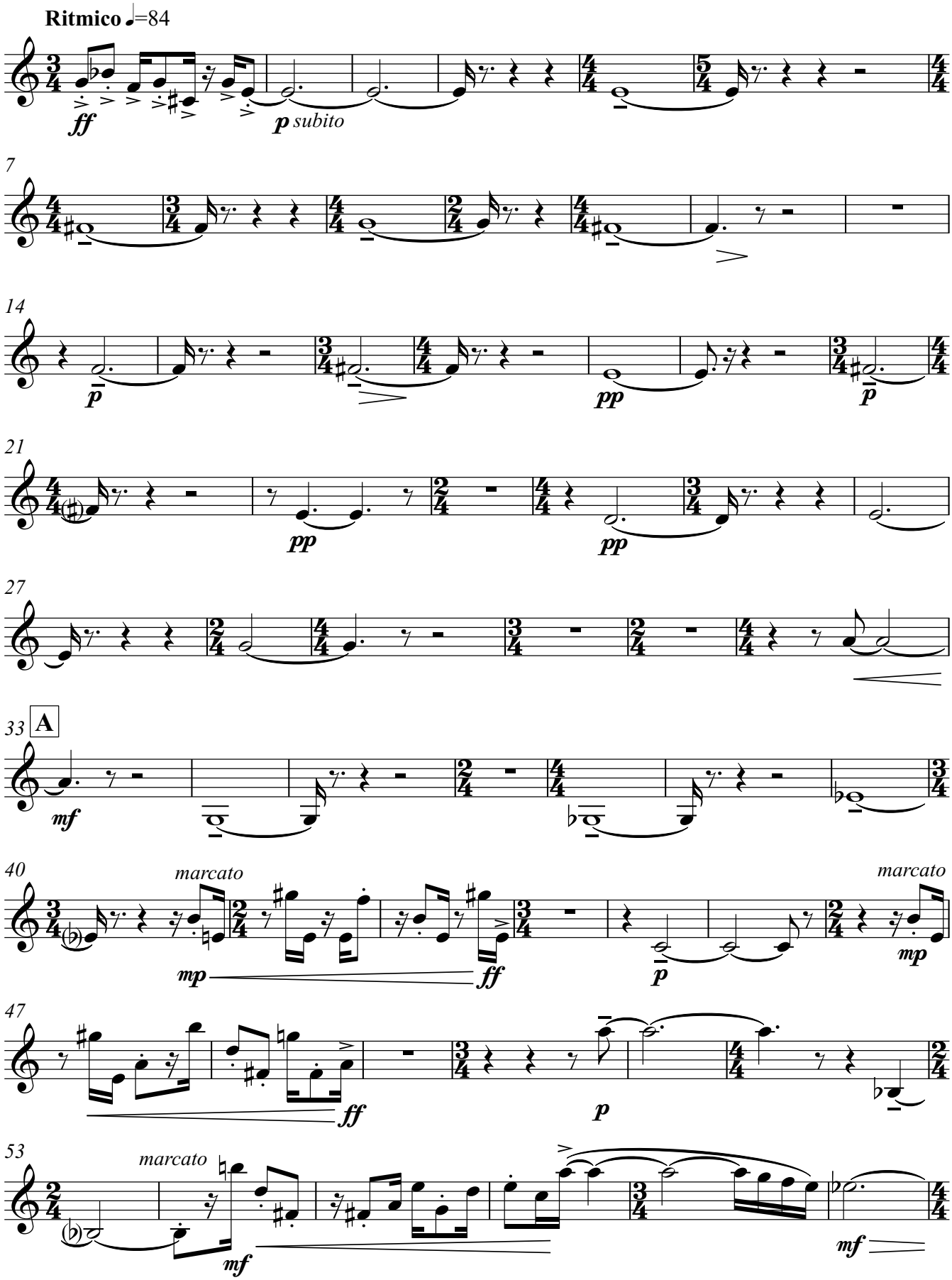
David Lancaster

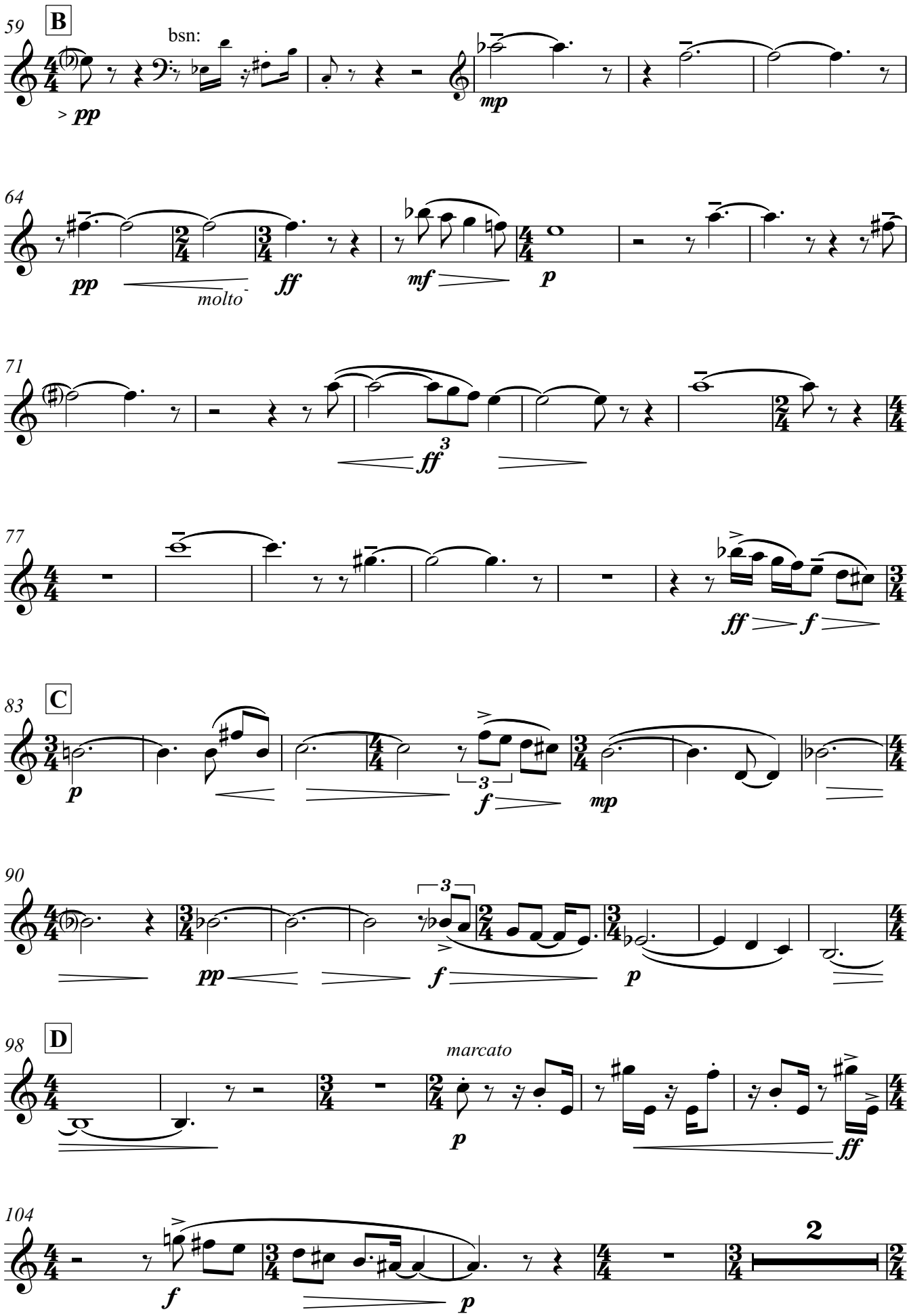
Grotesques

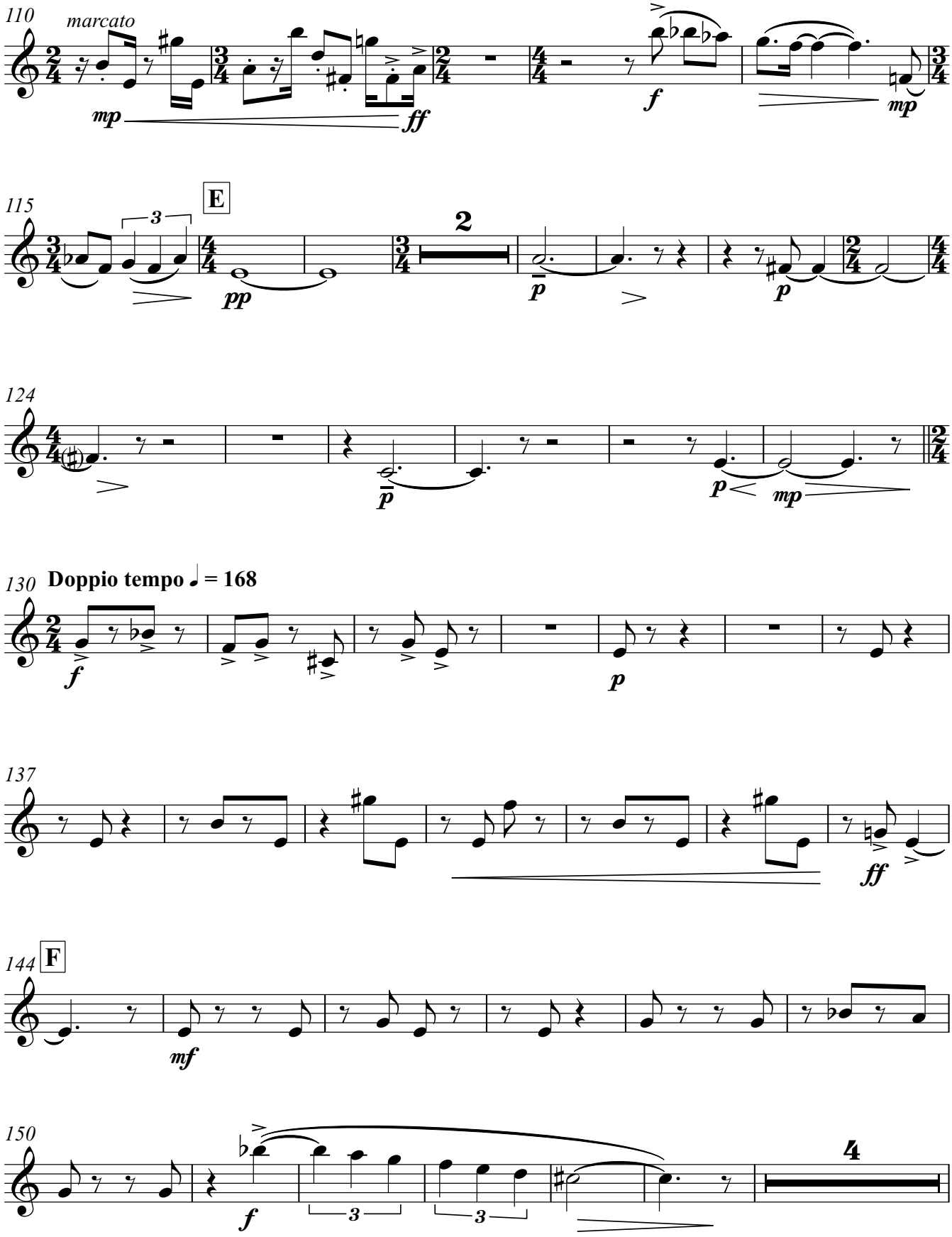
Clarinet in B♭

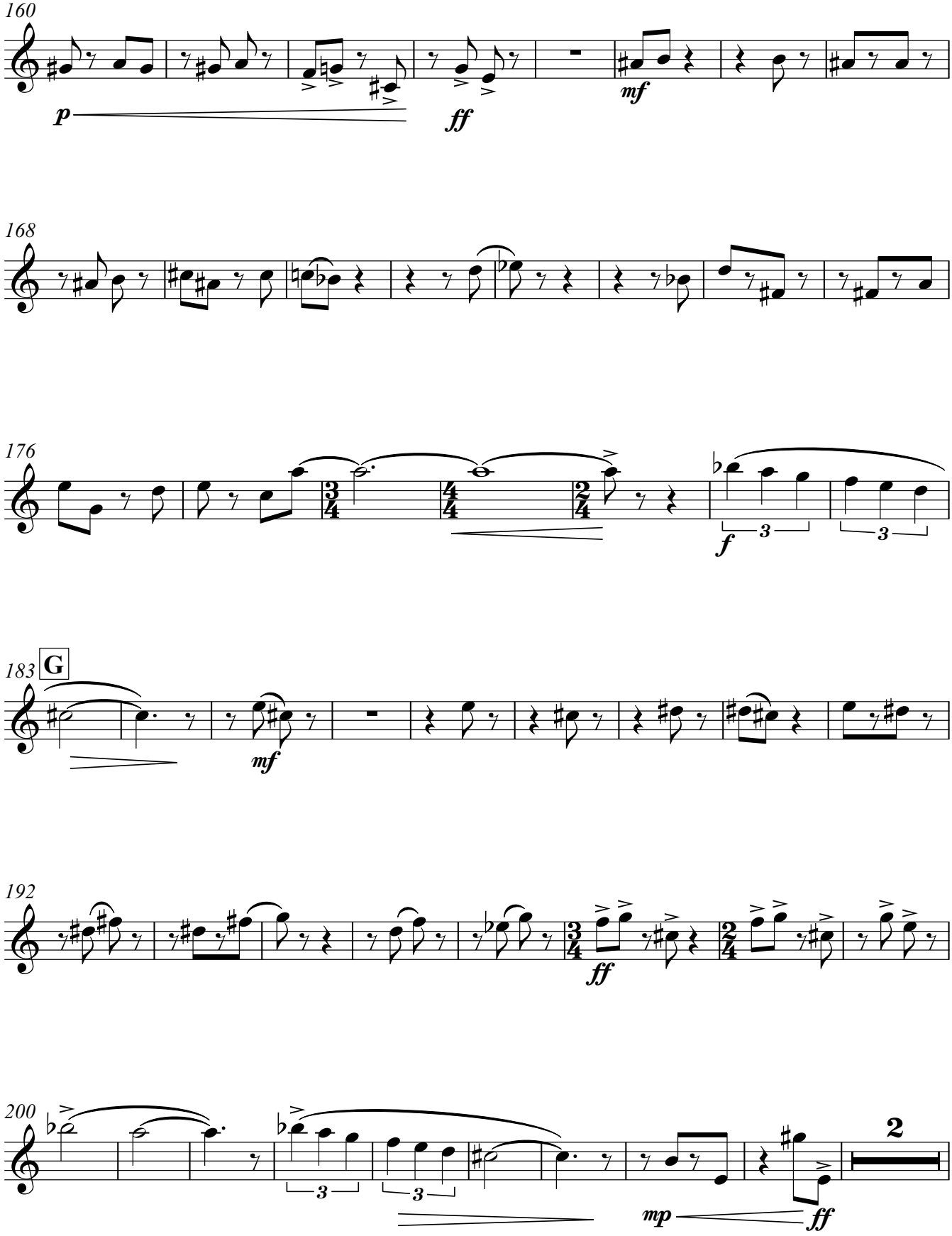
Grotesques

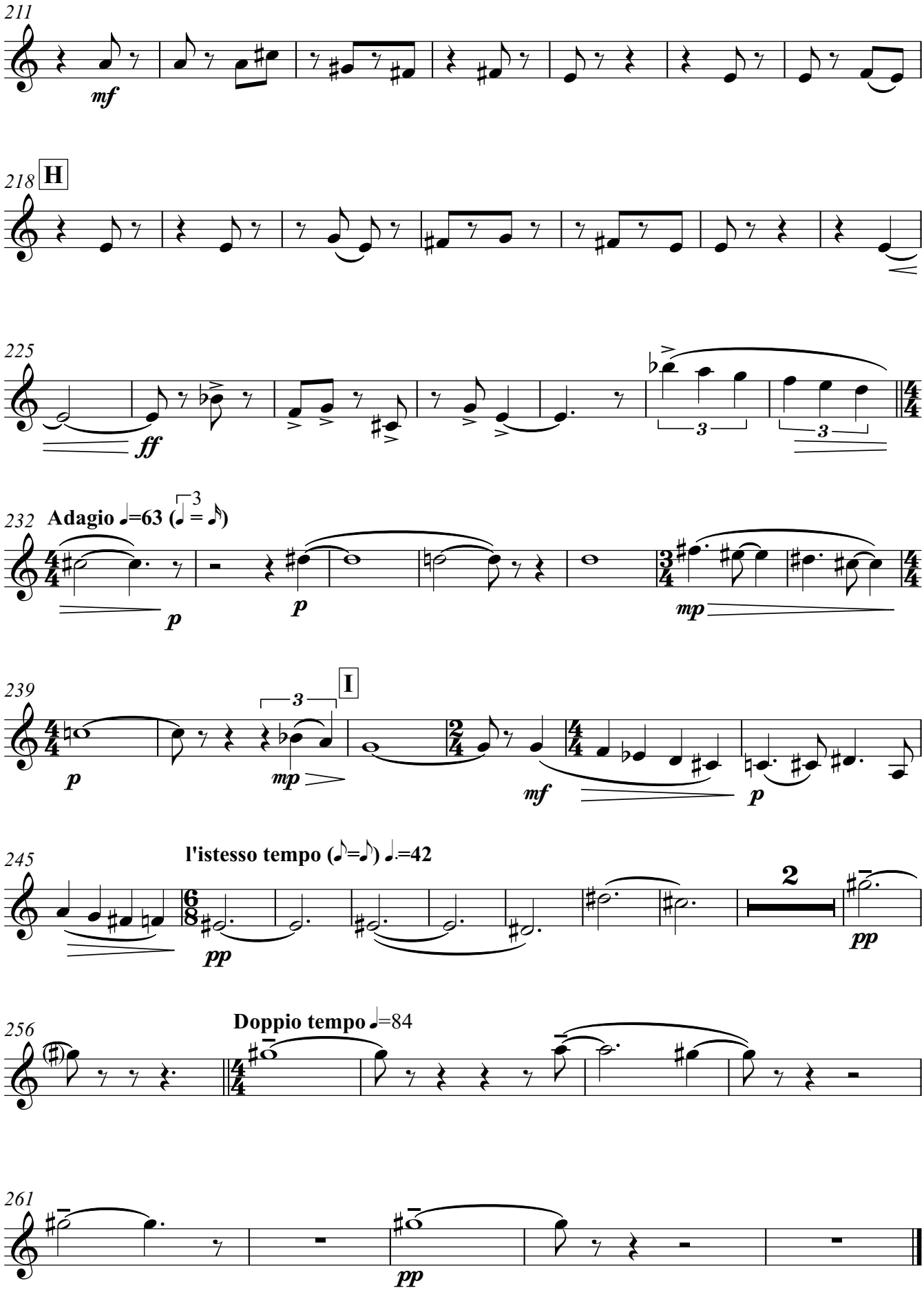
David Lancaster




59
B
bsn:
> pp
mp
64
pp
molto
ff
mf
p
71
ff
3
77
ff
f
83
C
p
3
f
mp
90
pp
3
f
p
98
D
marcato
p
ff
104
f
p
2


110
marcato
mp
ff
f
mp
115
E
3
2
pp
p
p
124
p
mp
130
Doppio tempo ♩ = 168
f
p
137
ff
144
F
mf
150
f
3
3
4


160
p
ff
mf
168
176
f
3
183
G
mf
192
ff
200
3
mp
ff
2


211
mf
218
H
225
ff
232
Adagio ♩=63 (3 ♩ = ♪)
p
p
mp
239
I
3
p
mp
mf
p
245
l'istesso tempo (♪=♪) ♩.=42
pp
2
pp
256
Doppio tempo ♩=84
261
pp

Bassoon

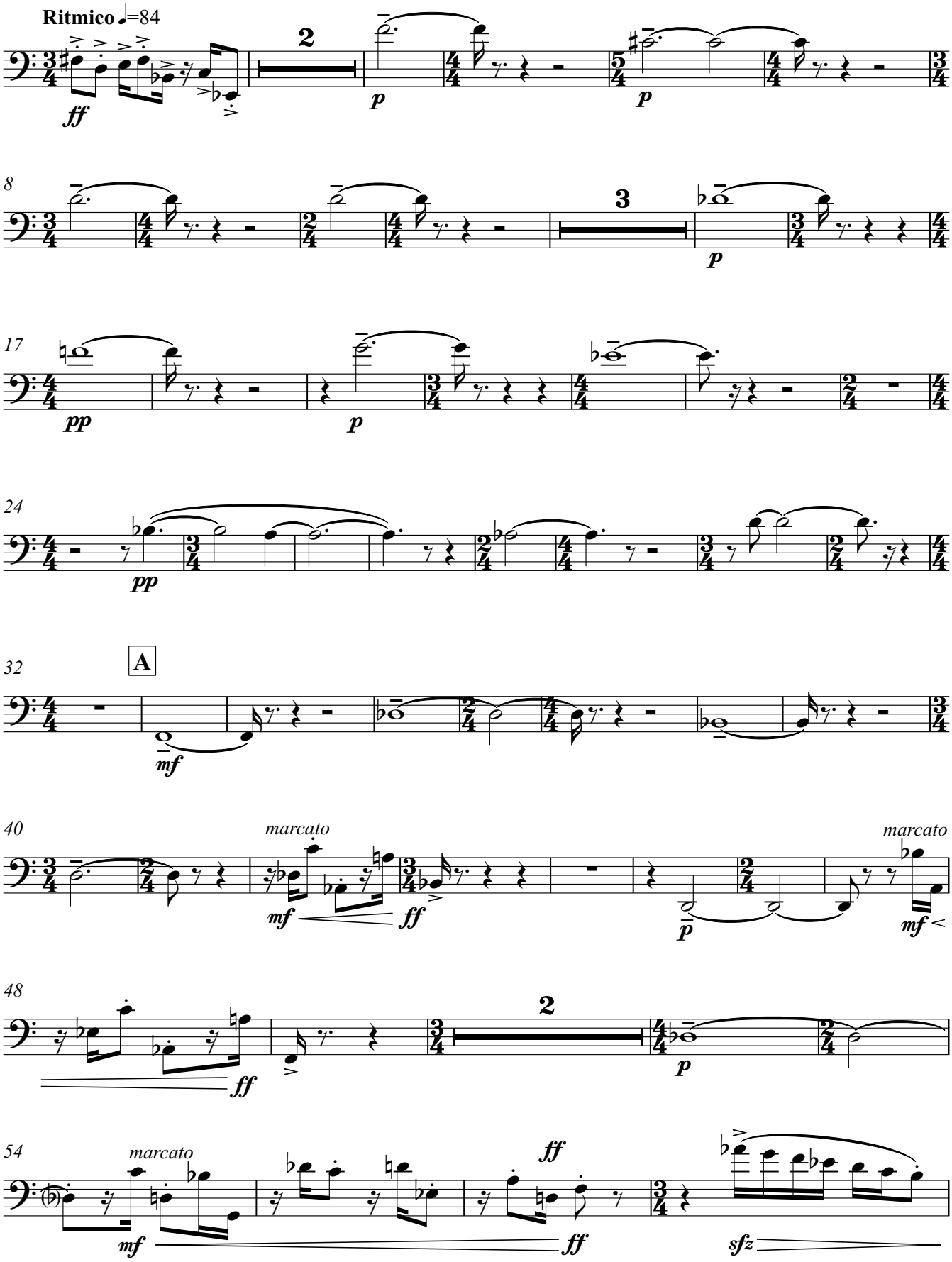
David Lancaster

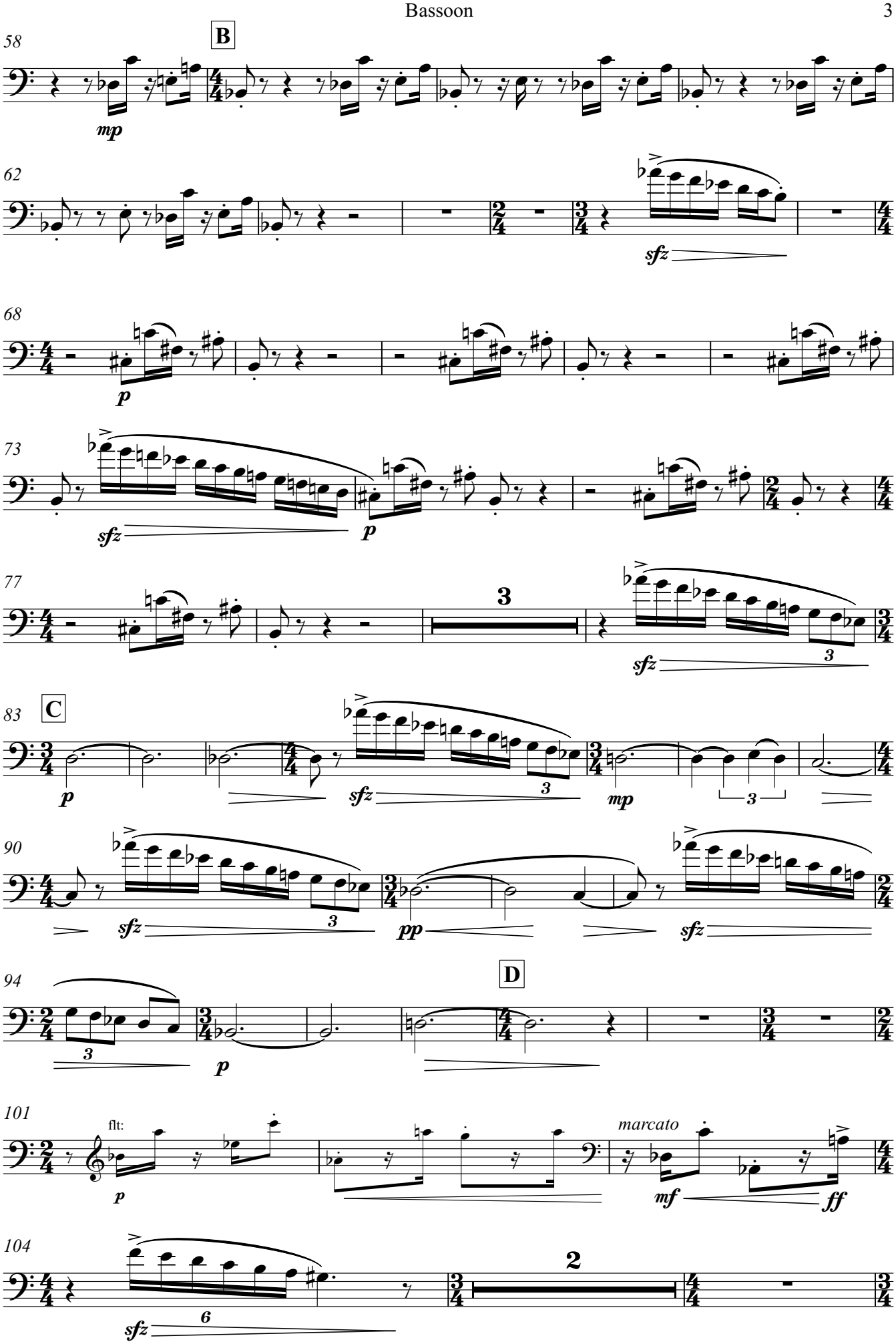
Grotesques

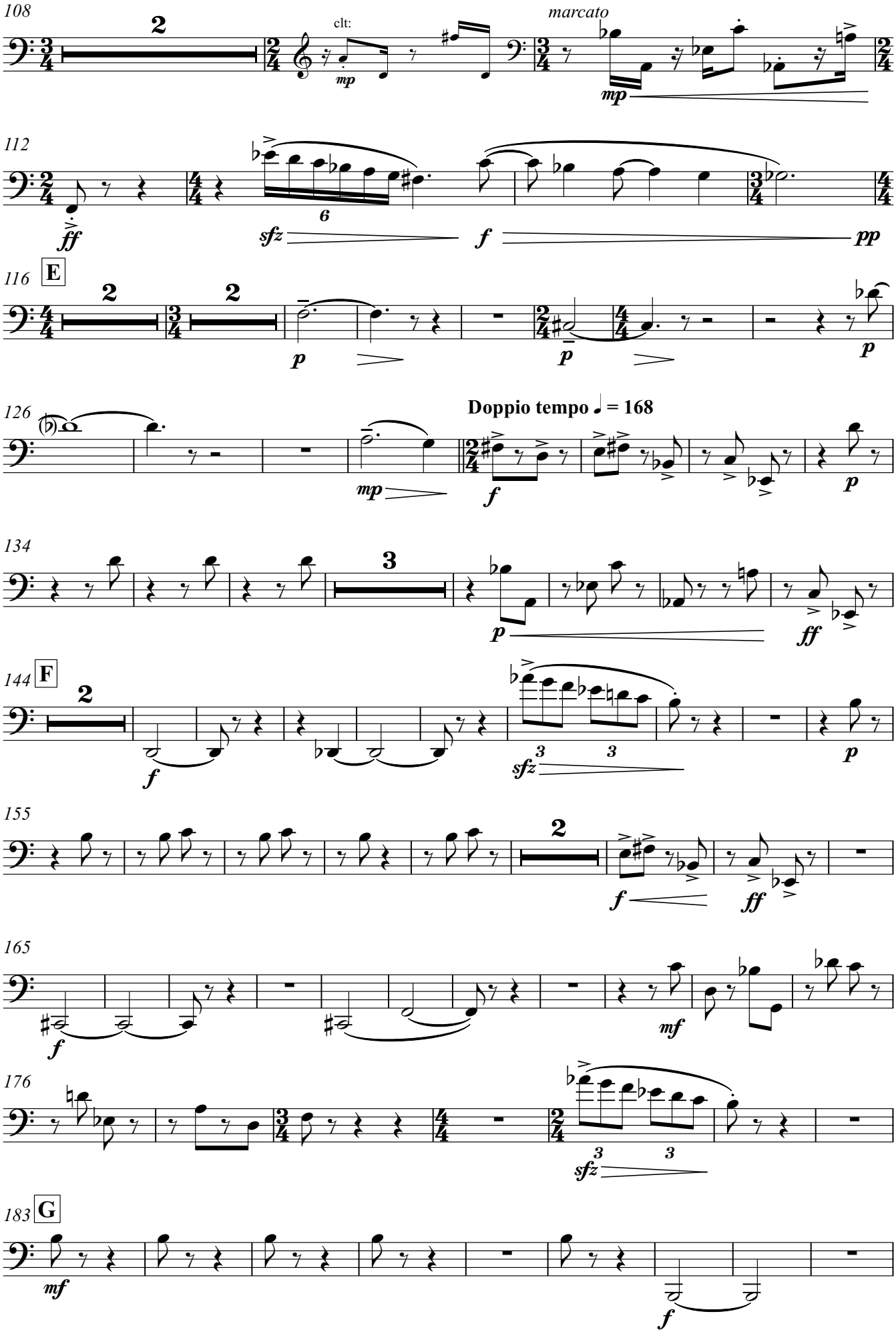
Bassoon

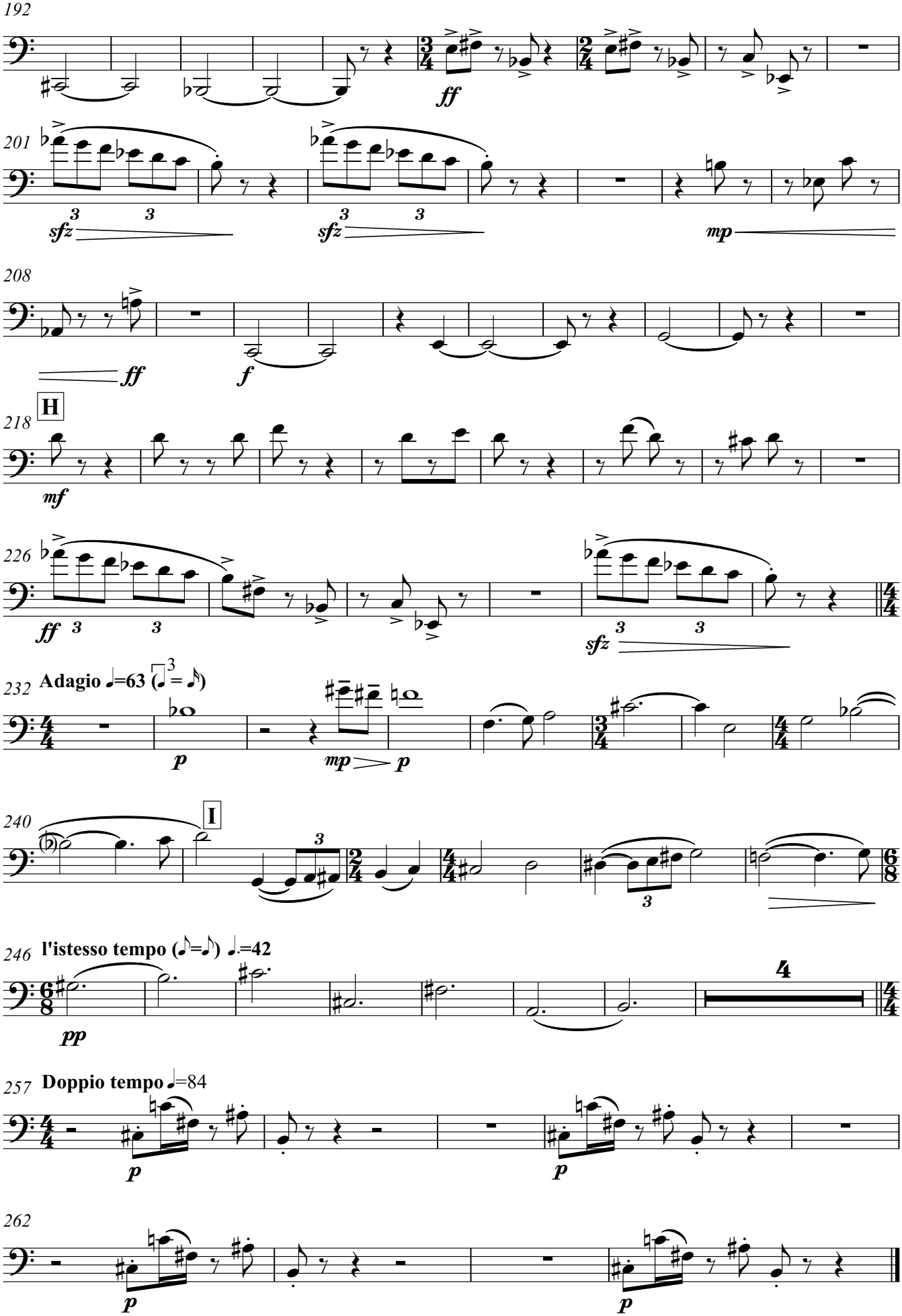
Grotesques

David Lancaster




58
B
mp
62
sfz
68
p
73
sfz
p
77
3
sfz
3
83
C
p
sfz
3
mp
3
90
sfz
3
pp
sfz
94
D
3
p
101
flt:
p
marcato
mf
ff
104
2
sfz
6


108
clt:
mp
marcato
mp
112
ff
sfz
6
f
pp
116
E
2
2
p
p
p
126
Doppio tempo ♩ = 168
mp
f
p
134
3
p
ff
144
F
2
f
sfz
3
3
p
155
2
f
ff
165
f
mf
176
sfz
3
3
183
G
mf
f


192
ff
201
sfz
sfz
mp
208
ff
f
218
H
mf
226
ff
sfz
232
Adagio ♩=63 (♩3 = ♪)
p
mp
p
240
I
246
l'istesso tempo (♪=♪) ♩.=42
pp
4
257
Doppio tempo ♩=84
p
p
262
p
p